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Protestants march through in Londonderry

LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland (R) - Some 10,000 hardline Protestants marched through Londonderry on Saturday in a noisy rerun of the event that first set Northern Ireland ablaze 25 years ago. Drummers flailed with even greater gusto than usual while pipes, accordians and flutes wailed out tunes signalling hostility to the aims of the rival Catholic community. A buge police presence was on hand to choke off the kind of clashes that sent Protestants rampaging through Catholic areas in August 1969. It was when those clashes spread to Belfast, the Northern Ireland capital, that Britain sent troops to the British province to keep order — a mission that troops have pursued ever since. As in 1969, Saturday's march was staged by the Apprentice Boys of Derry, an organisation of largely middle-aged men devoted to the memory of a Protestant triumph of arms 305 years ago. Behind gaudily uniformed bands strode the mainstream apprentice members in classic Protestant garb — bowlers, shoulder sashes and furied

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AMMAN SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 1994, RABI' ALAWAL 7, 1415

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Bouez: Breakthrough Crown Prince, American council team discuss Mideast development is possible with Israel

BEIRUT (Agencies) -Lebanese Foreign Minister Paris Bouez said on Saturday s breakthrough in peace talks with Israel was possible in the next few months.

"From now until the next four or five mouths there is a probability and a possibility of an essential, substantial, pangible and serious advancement on the peace front," Mr. Bouez told the Voice of Lebanon radio station in an interview.

Beirut insists that before peace is signed Israel must pall out from a buffer zone it occupied in South Lebanon or at least give a timetable for a withdrawal. Israel says Lebanon should stop crossborder guerrilla attacks first. Repeating his govern-

ment's line on guerrillas fighting Israeli forces, Mr. Bouez said it could not possibly stop Lebanese from re-sisting the Israeli occupiers of

The Lebanese people be-lieve it is hard to gain back its right by traditional methods only," Mr. Bouez said.

-He said that in talks between Israel and Syria a "certain development over the mechanism different from the past" took place — especially after the other Arab partners, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Jordan, reached peace break-throughs with israel. "In the past it was believed

the best way (to negotiate)

Cabinet shuffles

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Saturday accepted the resignation of

the secretary general of the

Ministry of Trade and Indus-

try, Marwan Awad, and

appointed in his place the

former director general of the

Development and Employ-

ment Fund, Dr. Mohammad

Ahmad Smadi. The Cabinet

also appointed Rashdan

Mohammad Rashdan as

secretary general of the

Housing and Public Works

Ministry, George Khlaif

Haddad as secretary general

of the municipal, rural affairs

and environment ministry,

ary general of the Health

as director general of the

stry, Dr. Safwan Toquan

Hani Yousef Owais as secret

Senior officials

was to declare principles then enter into details," Mr. Bouez said. "But now after 'Gaza-Jericho first' and what happened with Jordan there is a feeling that details are no less important than the principle and can empty the prin-

Therefore, moving from the 'principles then details' theory to that of 'principles and details together' ... may be the point of agreement between all partners," he

A senior Lebanese official said on Thursday that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher would return to the Middle East in September to seek answers to specific peace ideas he has presented to Israel and Syria on his recent tour of the region. He said Mr. Christopher

relayed to Syrian leaders Israel's willingness to withdraw totally but gradually over five years from the Golan Heights, seized by the Jewish state in 1967. The suggestion was a com-

promise between a Syrian de-mand a pull out be finished in up to two years and Israel's insistence on eight.
"I think Christopher came

to begin crystallising the prin-ciple of the withdrawal with Syria," Mr. Bouez said.

The official, who requested anonymity, said that among other ideas floated by Mr. Christopher was that Israel



Faris Bouez

ness to discuss security arrangements immediately after agreeing on the timetable of the withdrawal, and both states should specify their definitions of these arrangements.

Mr. Christopher assured the Syrians that recent breakthroughs on other Arab-Israeli tracks would not affect the commitment to a comprehensive and just peace.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faronq Al Sharaa said in Beirut on Wednesday there was no tangible progress in the peace process with Israel but reported "serious discussion" of key issues. Syria and Lebanon closely

coordinate peace talks

Aп Israeli television staand Syria should show readi-tion reported Friday Israel time frame for a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan

Heights.
The report on Channel Two also said Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has agreed to a full peace treaty with Israel.

The United States is proposing a two-year Israeli withdrawal from the Golan, the television report said. That proposal is a compromise between the four year withdrawal Israel has offered and the one year demanded by Syria, Channel Two said.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Friday that he had not heard of the proposal. But Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin told Channel Two it is one of several being

On Saturday, Syria's government daily Tishrin accused the Jewish state of unwillingness to give up occu-

"This Israeli deliberate evasion from full withdrawal from the Golan and South Lebanon will keep the peace process rotating in its place," the newspaper said. Right-wing legislators

sharply criticised the re-ported proposal, and the opposition Likud Party said that if it came to power in 1996 it would not respect a treaty that entailed a com-plete withdrawal from the

(Continued on page 7)

says no

break in

Iran ties

BUENOS AIRES (Agen-

cies) — The Argentine gov-ernment said Saturday it

would maintain ties with Iran

despite its accusations linking

Iranian diplomats to the

deadly July 18 bombing in

Buenos Aires.

"Argentina will respect international diplomatic rules and we are going to continue our business abroad," Depu-

ty Foreign Minister Fernando

Petrella announced over the

Argentina is seeking the

arrest of seven Iranians, in-

cluding three diplomats, for

the attack on the Argentine

Jewish Mutual Association

that left nearly 100 people

dead, 10 missing and 250

Mr. Petrella stressed the

importance of keeping the

lines of communication open

with foreign countries, "par-

Iran threatened Saturday

to break off ties with Argenti-

na and said it would take

legal action against those who

have accused Tehran in the

maintain relations with

warned state-run Tehran

It criticised Buenos Aires

for making the allegations

without providing any evi-dence to back the charges,

based mainly on the testi-

mony of Iranian Manucher

"Argentine leaders have

acted under pressure from the United States and

Israel." the radio charged.

"Now, it's trying to ease the

tension with Iran in order to

preserve its national in-

Although Iran had vowed

to cooperate with the inves-

tigation into the bombing, it

could decide to break off

legal action against those who

have damaged its internation-

al credibility," the radio

added, after Iranian Foreign

Minister Ali Akbar Velayati

(Continued on page 7)

'Iran has decided to take

diplomatic ties.

Argentina at any price,"

"Iran does not intend to

ticularly Iran."

bombing.

Motamer.

radio.

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received in his office Saturday representa-tives of the Washington based Council of Foreign Relations who briefed the prince on Washington's Middle East project.

Delegation members said they were seeking to mobilise the council's resources and its influential members towards making this project a

Prince Hassan discussed with the visitors the most appropriate means that can contribute to the success of joint projects to be executed in the Jordan Rift Valley.

Discussion at the meeting

also covered an economic conference to be held in Casablanca which is scheduled to tackle sources of The Casablanca meeting is financing of projects that will to be followed up by a similar



be implemented in the Mid-

forum to be held in Amman Delegation members said

contribute to the process of attracting external funding Jordan enjoys a qualified pri- directly or through joint in-

NATO's Woerner passes away at 59

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — Democratic Union. North Atlantic Treaty Orga- A cold war "ha nisation (NATO) Secretary General Manfred Woerner, who had been undergoing treatment for intestinal cancer for some time, died here Saturday, a NATO spokes-

Woerner died around 1:30 p.m. (1130 GMT) at his Brussels home. He was 59. German-born Woerner had been NATO chief since

July 1, 1988, when he succeeded Britain's Lord Carrington at the head of a bas-Before that he had been defence minister under Ger-

many's Chancellor Helmnt Kohl, and though he originally studied law, he had long taken an interest in defence and security matters. In February, only days af-

ter a fourth operation for intestinal cancer, Woerner displayed acute presence of mind at the dramatic NATO meeting which threatened the Serbs besieging Sarajevo with airstrikes. He was born in Stuttgart

on September 24, 1934 and his father was a textile salesman who set up shop in several German towns.

Woerner was also a trained. fighter pilot as well as a long-serving politician in Mr. Kohl's conservative Christian

A cold war "hawk" and supporter of the deployment in Europe of nuclear missiles aimed at the Soviet Union, he later saw NATO turn its attention to new challenges after the collapse of the War-

Woerner's death raises difficult questions for the alliance about who should succeed him, at a time when NATO is deeply involved in Bosnia and in trying to build greater security for Europe. His robust leadership was

iy itsi Woerner, the first German to head NATO since it was founded in 1949 to counter Soviet military power in Europe, had taken the summer months off to recover from a series of operations for cancer of the colon.

But he wrote to the allies recently saying he intended to return to his post next month. His mandate ran out in mid-1996. NATO sources said allied

ambassadors would probably meet in the near future to discuss a possible successor. "We are involved in a lot of issues and we need leadership soon. There cannot be a vacuum for long," said one source, who asked not to be

identified.

German defence minister during much of the 1980s before he took the NATO

His sometimes brash and aggressive style won him ome enemies as he struggled with the huge task of reshapping the alliance's military and political structures so that it would remain relevant following decades of East-West confrontation.

While he led the way in offering a new age of cooperation to the former Soviet bloc, Woerner was greatly disappointed by what he considered the West's failure to take a tougher line on the crisis in former Yugoslavia.

As he struggled with the difficult security issues facing Europe after the collapse of communism, Woerner also had to fight cancer of the colon — a battle that cost him

Within three years of taking the job, Woerner saw the

Algerian lawmakers adopt Sifi's programme

ALGIERS (Agencies) -Algerian lawmakers on Saturday adopted Prime Minister Mokdad Siff's government programme paving the way for changes to electoral laws ahead of legislative polls scheduled for late 1996 or early 1997.

The programme was approved after a four-day debate by 115 members of the interim national transitional council, with 11 voting against and eight abstaining. It calls for new election laws, new party and information legislation, the deregulation of commerce and prices. and the privatisation of some

state companies. The government will phase out the state monopoly on banking and insurances in line with an agreement signed with the International Monetary Fund in April when Mr. Sifi came to power.

Mr. Sifi urged opposition parties to join talks on helping end a political crisis triggered by a bloody insurgency against the military-backed government after the armed forces cancelled the second round of general elections the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was poised to win in January

President Liamine Zeroual has invited eight parties not represented on the council -but not including the since outlawed FIS — to join the talks on Aug. 21.

Twenty-two seats on the 200-seat council have been left vacant for members of the eight opposition groups.

French crackdown

Most French voters back a crackdown on Algerian militants in France and feel Paris should pull out of the troubled country rather than risk fresh attacks from guerrillas. a survey said on Saturday.

See related story on page 12

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ignore Iraq-Ben Eliezer structions from the United

al power, a minister warned Saturday, denying however that his country was in secret contact with Baghdad.

An Iraqi diplomat in Am-man, meanwhile, also denied an Israeli television report that his country had offered to open a dialogue with the Jewish state. "We cannot go on not tak-

ing notice of the fact that Iraq, which holds an important geostrategic position, is a regional power," Housing Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer said over the radio.

"I cannot say that Jews of another.

"But there has not been any contact or initiative between the two countries," Mr. Ben Eliezer said.

In Amman, Iraq's embassy spokesman Adel Ibrahim said in a statement that there was no truth to the television

The television said Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareo

through the ambassadors of two U.N. Security Council members, including Morocco, to Israel's representative at the United Nations, Gaad

The message called for the two states "to open a new chapter ... stressing that President Saddam Hussein no longer considers the Jewish state as an enemy country" since the signing of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) autonomy

But Mr. Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres rejected the offer, which Israeli television said was designed to persuade the United States to help ease or lift the U.N. sanctions in place since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in

Iraq, a swern enemy of Israel, fired 39 Scud missiles at the Jewish state, killing two people and damaging hundreds of buildings, during the January-February 1991 Gulf war which evicted Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

Asked on army radio if such a message was received, Mr. Ben Eliezer, himself Iraqi-born, said: "In my comion, no."

According to the Israel Television report, Israel ignored the initiative on inStates. It said, however, that some Israeli officials, including

cabinet ministers, support open contacts with Iraq. Iraq's government, still under punitive international sanctions imposed after its troops invaded Kuwait just over four years ago, has not

Iraq has traditionally opposed Middle East peace efforts and was at the forefront of criticism of the 1978 Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said fraq's Culture and

In a statement to INA, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, known. No one has the right to speak on behalf of Iraq or

Israel cannot afford to TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel cannot afford to ignore Iraq and its status as a region-

But he denied the television report.

Iraqi origin have not held discussions in London with Iraqis coming from Baghdad or that Israeli representatives have not exchanged a few words with Iraqi representatives at some function or

officially criticised agreements signed by Israel with the PLO and Jordan.

Iraq has given no public

hint of any overtures towards Israel. Iraq on Thursday criticised Jordanian suggestions Iraq could play an important role in the Middle East peace

Information Minister Hamed Yousef Hummadi had "expressed his astonishment and regret" over the comments.

he said: "Iraq's position on this entire issue is clear and

(Continued on page 7)

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Social Security Corporation, and Ali Mohammad Jaddou' as director general of the Development and Employ-Killers of German

sentenced to death

SULAYMANIYAH (AFP) - Two Kurds have been sentenced to death for the murder of a German journalist in northern Iraq, court officials said here Saturday. Zaki Said Abbas, a 32-yearold economic graduate, and mail Mohammad Mustafa, a 36-year-old taxi driver, were sentenced on Friday to be hanged for killing AFP correspondent Lissy Schmidt, they said. But the decision still has to be approved by the high court in April, they added.

ANC in tatters, Mandela says

SESHEGO, South Africa R) — President Nelson. Mandela, nearing 100 days in office, conceded on Saturday that his ruling African National Congress (ANC) Party was in tatters. Making the admission before 4,000 supporters, Mr. Mandela promised to take charge of tebuilding the party, saying the problem set in after it Won South Africa's all-race elections in April and senior members moved into government. "There has been complete dislocation and our Organisation is literally in tatters because our leadership is not there," he told the rally in this northern South African black township.

PLO to send teams Argentina to Jordan, Egypt

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — The Palestinian National Authority (PNA) decided Saturday to send two delegations abroad, one to Jordan to discuss peace moves with Israel and a second to Egypt to guarantee Arab recognition of its travel documents. During the weekly meeting of his self-rule government in Gaza, PNA Chief Yassser

Arafat briefed ministers on a visit to Jordan Aug. 7 by Faisal Husseini and Yasser Abed Rabbo. The delegation was re-

portedly sent to discuss Jeru-The July 25 nonbelligerency agreement between Jordan and Israel acknowledged Jordan's historical role in

maintaining Islamic holy shrines in the city.

Mr. Arafat said the pact within Jordan violated his September autonomy accord. with Israel by undermining Palestinian claims to the eastern sector of Jerusalem that they see as the capital of a would-be state.

According to the Sept. 13 accord, the future sovereignty of Jerusalem will be decided in talks over a permanent settlement that are to begin within two years.

The Palestinian delegation will leave soon for Jordan to continue the talks, said top Arafat aide Nabil Shaath. Jordan has said its role in Jerusalem had no bearing on the PLO's right to negotiate political sovereignty over

Jerusalem. "The Palestinian authority has decided to send a high level delegation to Jordan... to discuss with Jordanian officials bilateral relations and detailed discussions on issues in all spheres including tour-ism, education, health and communication," said PNA General Secretary Al Tayeb

Abdul Rahim. Dr. Sheath added that the autonomy government would also send a delegation to Cairo to secure the Arab League's recognition of Palestinian identity cards and travel documents.

All Palestinians living in

the autonomous Gaza Strip

and West Bank area of

Jericho have replaced their

former Israeli identity papers with Palestinian ones, but have vet to receive travel documents.

The PNA said Saturday it would be issuing the pass-ports soon. In addition, bur-dened by increasing financial pressure, the PNA agreed to start collecting taxes as early

as next week. Dr. Shaath told Israel Radio before the meeting that he hoped Palestinians would pay the PNA the taxes they used to pay the Israelis. Israel pulled out of the Gaza Strip and Jericho in May as part of the Sept. 13

antonomy accord with the Palestinians. Part of the agreement stipulated release of 5,000 Palestinians being held in Israeli prisons. Israel has released over 4000 prisoners and Israel Radio there are

plans to release 249. more seon. No date was given. The PLO would ask the Arab League, "to adopt the new Palestinian passport, new Palestinian travel document, new identity card, New Palestinian birth certificates

an so on, all the official certificates," Dr. Shaath said. "We will also approach different countries of the world of such an adoption so they can be used by Palesti-

nians here freely. Under the self-rule deal the New Palestinian passport is to carry the wording "Palestinian Authority," and "Travel Document" in English and Arabic. Identity cards will list de-

tails in Arabic and Hebrew to

make it possible to use them within Israel. Dr. Shaath also repeated to journalists that the Palestinian authority would start operating border crossings at Rafah from Egypt and the King Hussein Bridge, from the self-rule enclave of

Jericho into Jordan on Aug. Dr. Shaath urged Israelis and Palestinians on Saturady to let and live together in Jerusalem and seek way to share the Holy City.

"As we have learned from peace to share Palestine, we (Continued on page 7)

PLO asks U.S., Russia to probe Israeli violations

TUNIS (AP) — A top Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Friday asked the United States and Russia. co-sponsors of the Middle East peace process, to investigate "flagrant violations" by Israel of its self-rule accord with the Palestinians.

Farouk Kaddoumi, a member of the PLO Executive Committee, said "Israel has escalated its arbitrary measures, confiscating more Arab land and extending Israeli settlements, most particularly in Jerusalem.'

He telefaxed a copy of the statement he sent to Washington and Moscow to the Associated Press in

"We call on the co-sponsors of the peace conference, the United States and Russia to form and send - together with other members of the U.N. Security Council — a fact-finding mission to the occupied territories," the statement said.

Mr. Kaddoumi, who is also the PLO's chief foreign affairs spokesman, said these infringments violated the principle of the PLO's peace accord with Israel.

"Israel has adopted a deceitful patterns of action to distort reality and the facts and has deceived international public opinion by exerting political and psychological pressure upon the Palestinian people," Mr. Kaddoumi said.

Mr. Kaddoumi opposes that agreement and has in recent weeks intensified his condemnation of Israel, accusing it of putting obstacles in the way of Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip

It was not immediately clear whether Mr. Kaddoumi

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel and the Palestine Li-

beration Organisation (PLO)

have agreed to ask donor

countries for an immediate

payment of \$30 million to

allow the transfer of civilian

powers to the Palestinians,

the Israeli finance ministry:

The funds would come

from the \$720 million

pledged for this year by the

international community for

\$54 million over a six-month

period: \$30 million financed

by international donors and

the rest from the collection of

taxes." a finance ministry

official, Ehud Kaufman, told

The aid would help narrow

a budget deficit and allow the

Palestinian self-rule authority

to take charge of education, health, social affairs, tourism

The Palestinian minister of

transportation meanwhile,

said three foreign companies

had signed a contract on Fri-

day to build a port in the

Abdul Aziz Al Haj Ahmad

said the deal was concluded

with Ballast Nedam of the

Netherlands, Spie-Batignol-

les of France and Systema

around \$60 million, said

Robert Schuddeboom of the

Netherlands embassy in Tel

Aviv, adding that his govern-

ment was donating \$24 mil-

A European Union official has

said international donors are

The project will cost

Engeneria SPA of Italy.

autonomous Gaza Strip.

and the budget.

"We agreed on a budget of

Palestinian self-rule.

AFP.

q

Israel, PLO to ask donor

countries for \$30 million



Farouk Kaddonia

ton and Moscow with the approval of the Central Committee or PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who is struggling to set up an interior Palestinian National Author-

ity in the self-rule area. The statement sent by Mr. Kaddoumi repeatedly refer-red to "we," inferring that it was sent in the name of the

If Mr. Kaddoumi was acting on his own, then he appeared to be going out on a limb, underlining the confusion and divisions within the PLO over the accord and the slow progress being made in establishing a credible and coherent Palestinian rule.

In recent weeks, he appears to have been staking out a position as the leading opponent within the PLO of He has increasingly aligned

funding a range of projects to develop the Palestinian self-

Dupla del Moral, the un-

ion's representative in the

West Bank and Gaza Strip,

said: "I can cite a long list of

projects which are coming to

penny is a bit exaggerated,

"The idea that donor coun-

He was speaking after the

signing of an agreement to set

up a rubbish collection sys-

PLO Chairman Yasser

Arafat has repeatedly ac-

cused donor countries of fail-

ing to meet pledges to fund

self-rule in Gaza and the

He discussed the self-rule

authority's financial difficul-

ties with Israeli Prime Minis-

ter Yitzhak Rabin Wednes-

day at the Erez crossing be-

tween Israel and the Gaza

Donor states have com-

plained of a lack of proper

Palestinian accounting proce

dures, and have channelled

through the World Bank only

\$47.5 million of the \$720 mil-

lion pledged for the first year

Mr. Moral said Mr. Arafat

By rallying their human

'appeared optimistic regard-

resources and skills the

Palestinians can help their

Mr. Arafat attended the

signing of the project to clean

up Gaza, the first phase of

which will cost \$1.5 million.

economy," he said.

ing outside contributions."

of self-rule.

tem in Gaza City.

Jericho enclave.

fruition now."

he added.

himself with Syrian-based Palestinian factions which consider the accord a betrayal of the Palestinian struggle for a homeland and vowed to wreck it.

Mr. Kaddoumi has yet to directly challenge Mr. Ara-fat, although he has been increasingly critical of his

He has warned that violence is inevitable if the Israelis do not agree to a complete withdrawal from all occupied areas.

He has also called for the revival of the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza, which was launched in December 1987 and which Mr. Arafat agreed to end under the peace accord. Mr. Kaddoumi said Satur

day that Israel's "hindrance of the peace process" may cause "the resurgence of apprehension, instability and chaos in the region."

These Israeli actions will also lead to the failure of Palestinian self-rule and prevent "a free and democratic election" in the autonomous territories, he said.

Mr. Kaddoumi said any settlement "should be based on U.S. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and the exchange of land for peace."

Mr. Kaddoumi also said

such a settlement should include Arab East Jerusalem. Under the Sept. 13 self-rule agreement, the PLO and Israel agreed to defer Jerusalem's future status until

The Palestinians want East Jerusalem as the capital of rindependent state the PLO believes will eventually emerge from the peace

Iran party

says



BLAST IN ISTANBUL: Police experts ex-smine the site of a bomb blast in the Topkapi bus terminal in the European next of Istanbul.

Zimbabwe urges quick solution to Somalia crisis nuclear

of violating custody accord

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe has said the international community could not keep peacekeepers in Soma-lia indefinitely and urged its warring factions to settle

their differences quickly.
"It must be made clear that it is not our wish to continue to deploy our soldiers in Somalia indefinitely and I am sure that other countries with forces in that country feel the same as we do," said Mr. Mugabe, whose country has lost three soldiers during peacekeeping operations in

"Accordingly, we strongly

urge the Somali people to find a quick solution to their differences, before the international community gets irreversibly impatient with the continuing conflicts and hostilities," he told about 40,000 people at a rally in Harare to mark . the country's defence forces' day.

Mr. Mugabe made his remarks as the semi-official Herald newspaper published a message of condolence apparently from Somali warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed on the death of a

the hands of militia loyal to Abequas accuse authorities

AMMAN (AP) — The family of a Jordanian who has sed to have killed his wife Saturday accused authorities of violating what they claimed was an agreement to share custody of the nan's two children until an Islamic court decides their

It was the latest twist to a saga that began with the killing of Nihal Abequa, 40, who was strangled to death by her husband Mohammad I. Abem her Pars Troy Hills, New Jersey Apartment on July 4.

Mohammad Abequa, who is in police custody, has con-fessed to killing his wife and fleeing with their two chil-dren, Lisa, 6, and Sami, 3, to native Jordan. He was arrested July 20 and faces first-degree murder and kidnapping charges in a Jordanian court. No trial date has been fixed.

Nihal Abequa's mother, Mareyem Gussal, and sister, Nesime Dokur, are claiming custody of the children. Ms. Dokur has come from her Patterson, New Jersey Home to try to win their case. Like the slain woman and her husband, Ms. Gussal and Ms. Dokur are naturalised Amer-

The children stayed with Mohammad Abequa's mother until Thursday when they were handed over to the care of the Royal Palace, which put them and Ms. Dokur up in a government-

supplied apartment.
The children are not allowed to leave the apartment until the court decided who will assume custody of them. No date has been set for a court hearing.

Adnan Abequa, Moham-mad Abequa's brother, told a press conference that the authorities had violated what he said was an agreement with the government allowing for "temporary joint guar-

ianship."

He said the agreement called for the children's paternal grandmother and Ms. Dokur to stay with them until a court verdict was reached.

"But security officials did not allow the children's grandmother to stay with them as agreed," he said. Instead, they said she could see them for 10 minutes." Government officials

whether such an agreement Ms. Dokur was not im-mediately available for comment. Her lawyer, Nancy

would not comment on

Feinberg, declined to confirm or deny Adnan Abequa's Mariam, Mohammad Abequa's sister, said she visited the children with her mother on Friday but was asked to

leave the apartment after 10 "I wanted to cook some food for the children, but Nesime Dokur told us she would take care of that,"

Mariam Abequa told the press conference. She said Ms. Dokur also had wanted to take the children out of the apartment but was prevented by security guards. Saleh Mghrabi, the Abe-

quas' lawyer, said the authorities had "clearly violated the temporary agreement" and that the Abequa family reserved the right to call off the accord if "such violations

Iran has plans — U.S. official

WASHINGTON (AFP) Iran is pursuing nuclear ambitions even though international inspectors have not found evidence of a programme to produce nuclear weapons, the U.S. arms control director said Friday.

John Holum, director for the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, conceded that International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors twice went to Iran at Tehran's invitation and didn't find "any evidence of a

Still, Mr. Hohun insisted, Tehran's nuclear intentions were clear "in terms of their procurement activities, the kinds of reactors they're interested in acquiring

He said there is a "great deal of evidence suggesting that they are, in fact, main-taining nuclear ambitions" because they are seeking civilian nuclear reactors capable of producing fuel for an ato-

"We have been convinced for some time that the Iraweapons programme.'

Iran has not signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty aimed at restricting the flow of nuclear weapons technology, thereby slowing the production of nuclear

Meanwhile, Iran denied Western charges that it was developing chemical weapons, the official Iranian news agency IRNA reported on Saturday. IRNA said the denial was

made in a statement issued on Friday by Iran's mission at the United Nations in reaction to what it said were comments by U.S. senators accusing Iran of developing chemical weapons.

The statement said that Iran was contributing to efforts to implement chemical weapons conventions and continues to renounce the use of such weapons.
"Nevertheless, the United

States, which was remarkably mute about Iraq's use of these horrendous weapons, continues to accuse Iran of harbouring an intention to develop a clandestine chemical weapons programme," IRNA quoted the statement as saving.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israel invites Kuwait to trade fair

KUWAIT (R) - Israel has invited a Kuwaiti company to attend a trade fair in Tel Aviv but the offer is likely to be ignored because such a visit would break the Arab boycott of the Jewish state, officials said on Saturday. The invitation to the "Modern Living 1994" exhibition from Aug. 18 to 27 in Tel Aviv was faxed to the state-owned Kuwait International Fairs Company by the Israeli trade fair and convention centre, Kuwaiti newspapers said ou Saturday. A spokeswoman for the Kuwarti company confirmed such a letter was received on Wednesday but no reply had been sent. She said it had been addressed to the company chairman. He was away on holiday until early September. She refused to give further details. Officials said it was normal practice among Kuwaiti state bodies to ignore any invitation or contact that would constitute a breach of the boycott on direct trade with Israel. "Let us prove to the world that we are people looking forward for peace and friendship," newspapers quoted the letter as saying. "There is a new spirit in the Middle East, a spirit of negotiations, harmony and peace."

Cypriot refugees appeal to U.N.

DHERYNIA (AP) — Greek Cypriot refugees Saturday appealed to the United Nations to help them return to their homes in Famagusta, a ghost town since Turkish troops invaded the island 20 years ago. The appeal was handed over to an officer in the U.N.-patrolled buffer zone dividing the island's Greek Cypriot-controlled south from the Turkish-occupied north. "We demand to be allowed to return to our homes as a basic human right and in accordance with security council resolutions demanding the withdrawal of the Turkish troops and the return of the refugees," said the appeal. Hundreds of Famagusta refugees extraord to the refugees of the refugees of the refugees of the refugees of the refugees. fugees attending a rally at this town on the edge of the buffer zone could see the homes, church steeples and hote towers of the former tourist resort shimmering in the summer heat about a kilometre away.

Nine drug smuggiers killed in Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — Security forces have killed nine drug smugglers in an attack on a tribe near the Pakistani bordel; the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Saturday. Eight hundred kilogrammes of opium as well as arms and ammunition were seized in the raid on the Naruwi tribe it the southeastern province of Sistan va Baluchestan. The tribe is at war with the authorities in the province, a transit point for drug trafficking from Afghanistan and Pakistan enroute to Europe.

UAE adopts strict steps to cut foreign population

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has adopted stringent res to cut its large foreign community, with Asians expected to suffer most as they account for more than half the population.

The measures, to be en-

forced on Sept. 1, include restrictions on visas to domestic servants and families of expatriate employees, and a suspension of licences

Officials said the decision, endorsed by the federal cabinet recently, were made by a special committee created this year to redress what they called the imbalance in the demographic structure.

"The government thinks it is time to act before it is too late," one official said. "We hope such measures will bridge the serious population

Less than 30 per cent of the UAE's estimated two million population are natives. The rest are from other Arab countries, Asia, Europe and the United States, making up more than 50 nationalities. Indians form the largest

single foreign community, estimated at 400,000, followed by Pakistanis, Ira-nians, Sri Lankans, Bangladeshis and Filipinos. Their combined communities account for more than 50 per cent of the population. Most of the Asians are unskilled workers attracted by

high income in the Gulf state. which produces more that two million barrels per day of oil. Expatriates account for nearly 90 per cent of the UAE's 700,000-strong work-force, because of the lack of native skilled manpower and the small local population. According to the semi-official daily Al Ittihad, sus-

pension of licences will affect hairdressing salons, carpen-ters, tailor and blacksmith shops, laundries and other small commercial institu-The paper quoted Labour

and Social Affairs Minister Saif Al Jarwan as saying "the number of such places has surpassed the local needs. causing "stagnation and con-sequently unemployment." We all can notice thele

are streets full of these shops but there are no customer. Why should such places remain here and harm our economy?" he said.

The new rules also include curbs on visas to the families of expatriate employees in the UAE.

Only a small group of employees will be entitled to bring in their families and they must have a monthly salary of at least 4,000 dirhams (\$1,090), according to the official news agency

Government officials said families already living in the UAE would be denied a visa renewal if their supporter does not meet the new terms: Expatriates seeking to hite

a housemaid should also have a monthly salary of at least 6,000 dirhams (\$1,635) and should pay an annual tax to the state equivalent to the annual salary of their maid. Low income foreigners already hiring maids will have to deport them.

"They are the strictest immigration measures in the UAE's history," a Western diplomat said. Their exact impact on the society and economy will not be known until after some time. But surely they will trigger a mass exodus if they are fully eaforced."

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

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It will be hot with Winds north-

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WEATHER

westerly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 33, Aqaba 40 Humidity readings: Amman 19 per cent, Aqaba 26 per cent.

government 'thugs' attacked. funeral NICOSIA (R) — A liberal

Iranian party said governup people attending the bu-rial of a nationalist ex-minister in Tehran on Friday and detained a number of them. including the party's leader. The Iran Nation Party,

which is not recognised by the Islamic government, said ferocious clashes broke out after armed "thugs" attacked the funeral procession in Tehran's Behesht-e-Zahra cemetery.

"Two intelligence .ministry agents put their guns on the head of (party leader) Dariush Forouhar and abducted him by force in a car," said a statement sent to Reuters by the party's overseas bureau in Frankfurt.

The attackers broke both egs of a party member with nifle-butts and agents arrested a number of people, Iran's official news agency

IRNA reported the funeral

but mentioned no clashes. It said Forouhar made a speech about the career of Shamseddin Amir-Alaei, who served as a minister in the early 1950s and again in the liberal-dominated provisional government which was installed after the 1979 Islamic revolution.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN: Dr. Mukhies Mazahrah 820425 Dr. Mustafa Harzallah 826024 Dr. Yousef Rushed 661912 Al Asema obarm 637055 Nairoukh pharmacy Al Salam pharmacy Yacoub pharmacy 636730 623672 Dr. Ali Al Omari 272032

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This information is supplied by Down Jordanian (P.J.) information

department at the Queen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be veri-

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sea level.

The church, which measures approximately 25 metres by 14 metres, has a mosaic floor with polychrome

tion and industrial develop-They also discussed de-

Queen visits Aqaba to

review development plans

development plans and the

importance of maintaining

the balance between tour-

ism, environmental protec-

sign criteria for new development in the area. based on the studies of a specialists committee formed by the Queen in the early 80s to monitor and guide the design of public development projects in

Queen Noor emphasised the importance of future development in the context of its benefits to the people of Aqaba, to help them improve their standard of living and to involve them in the development pro-

The Queen stressed the importance of preserving the social and cultural identity of Aqaba, and the role Aqaba can play in promoting international exchange through tourism.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Crown Prince meets with British deputy Princess Aisha opens youth camp

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Samuday met with Fayez

Khasawneh, director of the

Agaba Regional Authority

to discuss plans for the de-

selopment and rezoning of

Queen Noor urged the

es to ensure the safe-

drafting of laws and regula-

tions to guide development

ty of visitors and to protect

and preserve the unique

The Queen and Dr. Kha-

mwnch reviewed previous

marine life in Aqaba.

the Agaba shoreline.

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Prince Hassan received at the Royal Court Princess Aisha Bint Al Hussein Saturday Saturday David Steel, member of the British opened Al Hussein Youth Camp activities for parliament, and a two-member delegation. Jordanian women living and working abroad. The Crown Prince and the British team The Princess toured the sections of the camp reviewed several issues, in particular, the at Ajloun in northern Jordan and was ac-Middle East peace process and related de-quainted with the participants' work, prog-

rammes and voluntary activities scheduled for the coming week.

Cabinet approves Petra protection measures

By Natasha Bukhari Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Measures for the protection of the rosered city of Petra are now under way in light of the political developments in the Jordanian-Israeli peace talks, and the expected effects on Jordan's tourism industry, according to Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad

The Cabinet has approved Dr. Adwan's request to raise entrance fees for non-Jordanian tourists into Petra from JD5 up to JD20, tourism ministry officials said Saturday.

Tourists wishing to visit Petra over a period of two days will be charged JD25 for a two-day pass, and JD30 for a three-day pass into the aucient city.

Amount the measures approved by the Cabinet was limiting the daily number of visitors to Petra to a maximum of 1,500. The measure, however, is open to reevaluation in the future, after improvements in tourism services and facilities take place.

"Our main concern is the

protection of Petra and the development of infrastructural projects nearby the site," Dr. Adwan told the Jordan Times Saturday.

The increase in the entrance fee is expected to raise treasury revenues by JD7 million to be put to use for improving Petra's tourism facilities, said the ministry official.

Jordanians visiting Petra will continue to pay a JD 0.25 entrance fee as the new arrangements apply only to foreign visitors.

Dr. Adwan said that after studying Petra's "delicate situation," it was decided to apply selective measures to the ancient city, which archaeologists say is fragile and should be preserved if it is to survive.

The minister said that priority to visit Petra will be given to those tourists on extended stays in the Kingdom. This decision was made to protect the interests of the tourism private sector offering services to tourists, he added.

Tourism in Jordan is expected to prosper considerably with peace in the region looming, observers

Informed sources told ministerial level to the bi-



A young boy rides his horse through the famous but fragile Siq leading to the Nabataen city of Petra (File photo)

the Jordan Times that Dr. Adwan will participate in the Jordanian-Israeli tourism committee meeting scheduled to take place next Wednesday at Israel's Moriah Hotel near the Dead Sea.

It will be the first Jordanian participation at the

lateral negotiations with Israel.

In addition, European airlines are already planning to organise direct flights into the country, and British Airways, a leading European airline, has de cided to resume its flights to Jordan after they were suspended in the late 80s.

The Ministry of Tourism has started work on projects aimed at improving public services and facilities in Petra in preparation for an influx of tourists to the Kingdom, said the ministry official, adding that transportation facilities assume top priority on Petra's development agenda.

New RJ president appointed

Cabinet on Saturday, in a meeting headed by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, accepted the resignation of the President and Chief Executive Officer of Royal Jordanian (RJ) Mahmoud Jamai Balqaz and appointed Nader Abdellatif Dahabi to

Mr. Dahabi was born in Amman in 1946, graduated from Al Hussein College and joined the Royal Jordanian Air Force as a cadet in 1964. He joined the Greek Air Force Academy in 1964 and graduated with a B.Sc. in eronautical engineering in Auburn University in U.S.

In 1980 he joined Cranfield Institute of Technology in England and graduated with an M.Sc. in aeronautical engineering in 1982. Mr. Dahabi obtained his second masters degree in public administration from

He attended many technicand managerial courses throughout his service and was appointed to different posts. Before joining RI last month, in what was considered a major administrative reshuffle, he served as the Air Force's Assistant chief of



Mr. Dahabi has been awarded various medals and decorations during his ser-

Envoy to S. Africa presents credentials

AMMAN (J.T.) - The first greetings to the King and Jordanian`ambassador to South Africa Shaher Bak, Saturday presented his medentials to President Nelion Mandela in Pretoria and said Jordan was looking forward to enhancing ties with the people of South Africa.
Mr. Bak conveyed to Mr. Mandela greetings from His Majesty King Hussein and said that Jordan was seeking to establish the strongest

ca in various fields. Mr. Mandela asked that the ambassador convey his

sible ties with South Afri-

expressed hope to be able to visit Jordan in response to an invitation sent earlier to him

by King Hussein.
The South African president said he hoped that peace and stability will prevail in the Middle East and that Jordanian-South African relations would be further

strengthened. The South African embassy here said that there was no word on the date a South African ambassador would be arriving in Amman, nor who the first ambassador

AKLINK-BUNDA CAMILAN'E

According to diplomatic sources, the embassy, which is now temporarily housed at the Forte Grand Hotel in Amman; will soon move to new premises. ~

South Africa is currently represented in Jordan by a four-member staff led by Chargé d'Affaires A. B.

Mr. Bak had been the Kigndom's ambassador to Spain during the October 1991 opening of the Middle East peace talks in Madrid. Medical reports suggest abuse in death of toddler By Ranz Husseini

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - A two-yearold boy in Jabal Hashemi Shamali, who seven days ago was admitted to hospital and died Tuesday, has been tortured and possibly sodomised, according to family members and medical reports.
Initial reports said that

Yazan Khalid Masri was beaten by his brother. However, investigations revealed that the boy, who lived with his father, step-mother, his brother Yanal, 6, and sister Manal, 5, was apparently sodomised by his 15-year-old uncle Shadi, who also lives with the family, according to a close

"We were informed by the doctor that Yazan was beaten badly and that he was apparently sode-mised," a close relative of a close relative of the family told the Jordan

The relative said that the physician who examined the child's body informed that he tound wounds that indicate that the child might have been sodomised before he was

The examinations also indicated that the victim's skuli was fractured and there were also needle marks on his neck and a rupture in the intestines from a hard beating to the stomach, he added.

The other two children, the relative maintained, were also abused by their uncle during the same period, and "medical reports said that there were bruises on the children's faces and other parts of their bodies." "When we went to pick

up the children after the incident we found them in a miserable condition and they were bruised," he

The children were forced to live with their father and stepmother after the victim's father Khalid Masri divorced his first wife Tahani, 27, and married a 16-year-old girl.

Tahani received her divorce papers last year, and her family forced her to husband," said the relative. The day of the incident. August 6, Mr. Masri went

to visit some relatives and left the children with their teenage uncle, police re-ports said. When the father returned home, he found

Yazan ili and vomiting. He rushed him to the hospital. Yazan underwent surgery, but died the next

day.
The relative, however said that he was told by the two children who were at home at the time of the beating, that their uncle was sleeping, and Yazan started crying and woke him up. The youth became angry and started beating Yazan, he added.

In an earlier police report, Shadi told police that he had beaten Yazan to "teach him a lesson."

According to the rela-tive, Shadi is in police custody. Police would not comment on the case.

Brother kills sister

A 29-year-old woman Friday was shot and killed by her brother in the Sweifieh area in Amman, Sa<u>tur</u>day.

Romina A. was shot five times in the head and chest by her brother Ramon, 27, following a family argument, a next door neighbour told the Jordan

According to the neighbour, the victim, who is a Christian, wanted to marry a Muslim man, but her family opposed the idea. Friday evening, the vic-tim told her family that she

man and they all started arguing, the neighbour The argument became heated. Ramon went to his room, brought out a gun and shot his sister, she

wanted to marry a Muslim

"We heard gun shots and we went to check the matter and found Romina lying on the couch in a pool of blood. Her mother was screaming and was in a state of shock and disbe-

lief," she said. The victim was rushed to the hospital, but was dead on arrival.

Police would only confirm the incident and deinea mithet coi The authorities said that they have detained the brother until further investigation into the case. Family escapes freak accident

Four members of a family Saturday escaped with minor injuries after a bus driven by a 29-year-old man crashed into their house in the Turkman suburb of Irbid, according to police and Civil Defence Department (CDD)

A police official told the Jordan Times that the accident, which happened at 6:00 a.m., was the result of

speeding.

He said the bus driver, Mohammad S., who was not carrying any passengers with him at the time of the accident, lost control of his vehicle and slammed into the house.

The bus driver was not hurt, the official said. Meanwhile, Anwar, 1, Salam 3, Sharif Hussein, 6, and their mother, Munirah, are listed in fair condition at Princess Basma Hospit-Times. He said they are expected to leave hospital

Scientists laser technology in medicine focus on

By Angham Tamimi Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In opening the Second International Conference on The Use of Lasers in Science and Technology Saturday, University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh suggested that more concentration is needed in applying the positive uses of laser technology. In his speech, Dr. Ghar-

aibeh said that holding this conference was part of the constructive cooperation the university seeks to achieve with all local, Arab and international bodies. It is intended to stimulate collaboration among scientists, he added. "This conference, at which

sent research on lasers, the most important resource of rays," said Dr. Gharaibeh.
"The discovery of lasers is considered one of the most

top Arab and foreign scien-

tists meet, was held to pre-

important achievements of this age. Its applications and uses have a clear impact on several fields, such as: medicine, engineering, agriculture and other sciences. Dr. Gharaibeh also refer-

red to the dark side of laser technology, and its negative impact on humanity when applied to military weapons. To reduce the negative usages of laser, "we should work hard to erase the laser's other name, "Death Ray," and replace it with "Life Ray," said Dr. Gharaibeh.

Chair of the conference Riyad Bitar listed the papers that would be covered over the three-day conference, at which about 150 participants from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq, Algeria, Pales-tine, Italy, the U.S., and Jordan are participating. Saturday's sessions in-

medical applications of las-

cluded mostly papers on the



University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh (second left) and conference chair Riyad Bitar (second right) officiate Science and Technology

over the opening of the Second International Conference on the Use of Lasers in

raq Governorate by archaeologists from of Antiquities Archaeologists in Mafraq, uncover mosque, church and wine press

There were figurative motifs

vealed by the missing parts in

the floor. The most remark-

able element of the church is

The excavations unearthed

the remains of an Umayyad

mosque measuring 11.5

metres square. The mosque

was constructed of regular

and well-dressed limestone

the Greek inscription.

removed by iconoclasts as re-

Mosaic floor unearthed in Sa'ad in Maf- Yarmouk University and the Department

AMMAN (J.T.) — In first geometric and floral patterns. leason of excavation, a Jordanian archaeological team supervised by Salih Sari, of the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University, in cooperation with the De-Partment of Antiquities, recently uncovered a mosque, a church and a well-preserved Time press complex at Sa'ad, in Matrag Governorate in Borthern Jordan.

The first archaeological campaign was carried out from June 4 until July 24 this year. The excavation was a the Deanship of the Research and Graduate Studies of Yarmonk University.

Sa'ad is located 27 kilometres west of Mafraq city. It rises to a beight of almost one kilometre above

Recently, the opening of a new road crossing the area resulted in a partial demolishing of the mosque's eastern wall. Three courses of well-cut stones are still standing in the southern and western walls. The Bayt Al

Salat (prayer hall) and the Mihrab are well-preserved. An impressive wine press was also unearthed. It consists of seven rooms, all but one with mosaic floors. The function of each room was to press the grapes. A pit is located in front of each room,

most probably used for filtra-

tion purposes. At the centre of the press complex is a main hall, also with a mosaic floor. It too probably functioned as a grape-pressing area because of the presence of a wooden

post visible in the centre. The seven rooms as well as the main hall are connected to a big reservoir the wine was stored. The scale of the reservoir indicates that production served not only for the local consumption but

also for export. The sophisticated technique of the mosaic floors indicates that the village was economically prosperous during the Byzantine and early Islamic periods.

The artefacts collected

from the site prove a con-

tinuous occupation since the early Roman period, probably earlier, up to the Ottoman period. The site is still under inves-

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins) and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify (the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

FUHEIS FIFTH FESTIVAL

- ★ Comedy entitled "Punctured Bag" by Nabil Mashshini at the main theatre, off the Greek Orthodox Convent at
- Poetry recital by Lebanese poets Shawqi Bzai', Abdul Karim Shams Al-Din, Lami' Al-Horr, and Talal Haidar at the festival site at 19:00.

★ Exhibition of Jordanian scripts, documents, and books.

- ★ Abstract art paintings exhibition by Salwa Ammaren, Darya Zeizifa, Norma Hattar, and Ilias Tu¹meh. ☆ Exhibition on the city of Salt.
- Caricature drawings exhibition by Imad Hajjaj, Kifah Mahmond, and Khaldoun Gharaibeh.
- ★ Comprehensive agricultural exhibition (held for the first) time with the participation of the private and public

* Film entitled "Dick Tracy" at the American Center at 17:00 p.m.

LECTURE

☆ Lecture in Arabic entitled "The Art of Discovering Oneself" by Dr. Joseph Majdalawi at abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabai Amman at 18:30.

- **EXHIBITIONS** ★ Exhibition of new paintings by Diana Shamounki at The Gallery, Jordan Iner. Continental Hotel (8:00 a.m. - 7:00
- ☆ Exhibition of paintings by Omar Hamdan Shahuan at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permaner exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/
- Exhibition of caricature drawings by cartoonist Hussein Al Farra at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel.
- ★ Exhibition of oil paintings by Princess Wijdan Ali at the Balga' Art Gallery in Fuheis (10:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.)
- * Exhibition entitled "Environmental Technologies: A Travelling Information Centre" at the American Center.

☆ Exhibition of water paints by Sudanese artist Abdul Qudir Al Bakhit at Baladna Art Gallery, Gardens Street

Lawyers to visit Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation comprising several presidents of professional unions in Jordan will head for Baghdad on Aug. 29 to express their unions' support for the Iraqi people and voice their demand for an end to the UN-imposed sanctions on Iraq, according to Jordanian Bar Association (JBA) President Kamal Nasser.

Dr. Nasser, who is to lead the delegation, Saturday said that now that the Iraqi ledership has complied with all UN resolutions, the time has come for the world community to end the embargo.

He said the team will take a gift of medicines and medical equipment to Baghdad, hold meetings with Iraqi officials and later address a press conference.

N. Korea, U.S. agree on nuclear issue but find more work needed

GENEVA (AFP) — North Korea and the United States agreed early Saturday a halt to Pyongyang's controversial nuclear programme and said they were ready to normalise their diplomatic and econo-

Welcome for the agreement was cautious from most sides and Western diplomats said "much work was left to be done" before the issue of North Korea's nuclear interests is settled.

In Vienna, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) welcomed the agreement but said many points remained unsettled.

Spokesman David Kyd said the main concerns of the IAEA — inspections of the North's nuclear facilities and the status of 8,000 fuel rods extracted from the Yongbyon nuclear reactor in June had still to be decided, saying "everything is still up in the

Under the agreement, North Korea agreed to a halt to its controversial nuclear programme in exchange for technical assistance from the United States and a commitment to normalise economic and diplomatic relations.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci, head of the U.S. delegation, said he was "pleased with the agreement" but "there are still many important issues that remain to be resolved."

The "lion's share remains

stage for the start of Woodstock '94 in

Sangertie N.Y. Organisers expect the crowd

SAUGERTIE, NY (R) — An estimated 200,000 fans

camped out Friday night

amid the wail of rock and

roll, waiting for the official opening of Woodstock '94,

an event organisers say will

belp bring the spirit of the

original to a new generation.

20s, is expected to swell

Saturday as rock veteran Joe

Cocker takes to the 650-foot

(200-metre) wide north stage

at 11 a.m. (1500 GMT) to

Woodstock '94 is billed as

offering two more days of

peace, love and music to cele-

brate the 25th anniversary of

the original festival that be-

came a legendary event for

Organisers were tight- lip-

ped, but concert sources said

the Rolling Stones — minus

Mick Jagger - and Van Mor-

rison would be making sur-

prise appearances Saturday.

an open farm field, seemed

hellbent on having a good time. People played in the

mud — as they did at the

original Woodstock - and

went topless, again just like

The crowd, camped out on

kick off the festival.

the '60s generation.

The crowd, mostly in their

to swell to over 200,000 as the outdoor rock people attended (AFP photo)

phone.

dreams

Thousands camp out for Woodstock opening

in the good old days. In a sign of the times — the '90s not

the '60s - one naked man

was seen holding a cellular

The lineup, meant to

appeal to the 20-somethings

known as Generation X, in-

clude the Red Hot Chili Pep-

pers, Porno for Pyros and Metallica.

Polygram Diversified En-

tertainment President John

put up the estimated \$34 mil-

lion investment in the mega-

event, said Friday that the

concert was coming together

beyond my wildest

He said he had received

more than one apology from

reporters who had ques-

tioned the commercialisation

of what was a landmark

event for a previous genera-

The original Woodstock, at

a farm 50 miles (80 km)

away, became famous for the

crowd of 500,000 most with-

out tickets, and the ensuing

chaos coupled with good will.

appeared to pick up, organis-

ers here forced to halt sales

'As ticket demand

Scher, whose organic

stock '94 is being held to commer

original concert held in 1969 when 500,000

late Friday because the 11

parking lots assigned to the

event within a 50-mile (80-

km) radius were either filled

or reserved for those who had

They said that 207,000 tick-

ets had been sold, entering

the record books as the big-

gest advance sale gross in

history, but far from the

250,000 tickets they had

hoped to sell, an amount

to arrive Saturday, they esti-

mated that at least 200,000

were already on hand -

either with or without tickets.

revenue, movie rights, pay-

per-view television and a

seemed a near-certainty.

Woodstock album, a profit

On Friday, the unofficial

opening day featuring local

bands, proceeded smoothly,

organisers said, although

they admitted there were

problems with the Hospital

Wristbands meant to show

that people had bought tick-

cts and with delays in exchan-

ing cash for the special

Woodstock money that is

needed bo buy anything.

But with the concession

While thousands were due

needed to break even.

not yet arrived.

In Seoul, a South Korean Foreign Ministry statement said: "The government takes a positive view of the joint statement since it has made clear the principles to be followed by both sides in their further efforts to find an ultimate solution to the nuclear

In Tokyo, within range of North Korea's Rodong missiles, which would be capable of carrying nuclear warbeads, officials unreservedly welcomed the agreement.

"It's a great step forward towards solving the issue" a government source said, while another official said most of Japan's worries were taken care of by the accord. And in Beijing, the Chinese government said it welcomed the accord and said "the relevant parties will continue to make constructive efforts to settle the nuclear issue as soon as possi-

In a joint statement announcing the agreement at the end of week-long talks, North Korea said it was "prepared to remain a party the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) which requires regular inspections of its nuclear facili-

North Korea said that if a final agreement was reached it would "replace its graphite moderated reactors and related facilities with light wa-

ton believes are less likely to be diverted for military pur-

One key issue yet to be resolved is the fate of 8,000 spent fuel rods corroding in a cooling pond near a nuclear reactor outside Pyongyang.

North Korea removed the rods from the Yongbyon nuclear facility last June, rejecting IAEA requests that it be allowed to properly monitor the operation in order to determine whether any of the fuel had been diverted to

make nuclear weapons. Despite international concern, Pyongyang has refused to allow the fuel rods to be processed in another country. During the switchover

from graphite to light water technology, the lost nuclear energy could be replaced by thermal energy or oil, said North Korea's first viceminister of foreign affairs, Kang Sok Ju, who led his country's delegation.

Mr. Gallucci told CNN that the United States had not pledged any funds to help North Korea switch to light water reactors but would help North Korea find funding to-

Mr. Gallucci estimated the switch would take a decade and cost about \$4 billion. He suggested that an "interna-tional consortium" should be created and will hold talks with South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and others to

South Korean officials Saturday predicted that North Korea and the United States - still technically at war with one another would move towards diplomatic ties by establishing iaison offices.

The prediction, carried by the South's Yonhap News Agency, came after Washington and Pyongyang issued an "agreed statement" at the end of nuclear talks in Gene-

In the statement the two sides said they were "pre-pared" to establish diplomatic representation and reduce barriers to trade and invest-

"Although the decision has to wait until the next set of talks (due to start Sept. 23), they are most likely to agree on exchange of liaison offices," Yonhap quoted one

official as saying.
The official added that preparation for the liaison office exchange and other details in the agreement could begin before Sept. 23, although no concrete action could be taken until after that date. A senior minister, speak-ing against a backdrop of

opposition criticism that Seoul had been left out in the cold, was quick to say the Washington-Pyongyang statement had provided the impetus to get the stalled South-North Korea talks going again.

N. Zealand government holds majority by a whisker

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (R) - New Zealand's conservative government clung to its majority by a whisker Saturday by edging out the left-wing alliance in a tense vote for a vacant parliamentary seat.

Prime Minister Jim Bol-

ger's National Party held the seat of Selwyn by just 346 votes from the Alliance to keep its majority of one seat in the 99-member legislature. A defeat for National would have created a hung parliament and the possibility of an early general election - an outcome that Mr. Bolger had declared would be politically destabilising and damaging for financial mar-kets and the economy.

"New Zealand's the winner tonight. We now can have stable government and get on with the growth, the sion of the economy. he said in a television inter-

Politicians are political commentators said the closeness of the result, despite the huovant state of the economy, was a sign that many voters distrust the govern-ment's policies on health reform, education and the welfare state.

"I believe in the health reforms, I think they're on the right track, but I don't think the people are getting the message," victorious National candidate David Carter said.

There's obviously still a lot of anger out there towards the government. I think particularly on social policy political scientist Raymond Miller said. The main feature of the

result was the collapse of Labour's vote. It trailed to third with just 10 per cent of the vote, down from 37 per cent at the last election in November. Labour leader Helen

Clark, battling to assert her authority over a divided party and beset by criticism of her management style, blamed the outcome on tactical vot-

Alliance leader Jim Anderson said the voters ofe Selwyn "have given a lead to New Zealand and put National on notice that their days in government are numbered ' He added: "We are the

alternative government of New Zealand. The people of Selwyn have told us that." The result means National

has 50 seats in parliament, with the Labour Party on 45 and the Alliance and populist New Zealand First on two

Although Labour is easily the second biggest party, the alliance has built up strong momentum and opinion polls show Mr. Anderton is the man most would prefer



Armed Haitian civilians observe the training of — for the Haitian military. Thousands of civilia palace in Port-An-Prince to show their support

preparation for a possible U.S.-led invasion (AFP photo)

Haiti's Duvalierists relive bad old days

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AP) Nationalist slogans and thousands of marching men brought a twinge of nostalgia Friday to supporters of Haiti's former dictator Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier. At least 2,000 unarmed soldiers and newly recruited militiamen grunted through the open gates of the presidential palace and doubletimed through capital streets, some in white martial arts

outlits.

They were led by Brig. Gen. Philippe Biamby, army chief of staff, who wore shorts and a T-shirt that read "unity, integrity, hierarchy, tolerance." Witnesses said thousands more men, many too young to have served the brutal Duvalier dictatorship, ran along on other downtown

The training exercises were held to demonstrate the military government's determination to resist any U.S. invasion to restore the elected government of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

But to 59-year-old Nadas Agustin, a devoted Duvalierist, the show brought back memories of the dictator's rule, during which thousands of political opponents were murdered and the national treasury plundered.

The new militiamen represent the latest consolidation of army-led authoritarian power since the 1991 over-throw of Mr. Aristide — and another force that could be used to suppress Aristide strongholds.

"It's a great day," beamed Mr. Agnstin, who said he didn't believe Washington would follow through on its threat to use military force if army coup leaders did not step down.
"This (mobilisation) amply

demonstrates the unity of the Haitian army and the Haitian people," Mr. Agustin added, wearing dark sunglasses as he stood outside army head-

Nearby, a former member of Duvalier's dreaded Tonton Macoute militia was jubilant, matching the celebratory mood.

Gen. Biamby led his men in song outside headquarters, then looked on from a second-story balcony, beside a huge portrait of Haiti's patron saint, Our Lady Of Perpetual Help.

The recruits, some of them former soldiers, Macoutes or people just looking for a free meal, appeared disciplined and were respectful of foreign journalists, even during incendiary anti-foreigner rhe-

Far-right groups sought to scare away any potential U.S. invasion, saying American troops would face voodoo powders and zombies.

"Magic powder is better than bullets, than weapons," Franck Pierre, a leader of the small Capois La Mort ultranationalist group and a U.S. Air Force veteran, told the Associated Press. "The powder — phoooooo — period. You're a dead body."

Friday was the start of a four-day weekend in Haiti, called by the military-backed government to honour a Protestant prayer cycle and cele-brate the Catholic Feast of the Assumption. Many people attended church, praying for a way out of economic depression and political rep-

Not all Christian groups, however, heeded recom-mendations from their church hierarchies to attend special weekend services.

"Prayer, pardon and re-conciliation will never suffice to solve the problems of Haiti," the Catholic community group in Port-Au-Prince's St. Martin Neighbourhood said in a statement. "Heavily armed attaches will never be reconciled with the humble people (who voted in the democratic elections) of Dec. 16, 1990."

Armenia gives green light to Russian peacekeepers, boosts investment

WASHINGTON (AP) -Armenia's first democratically-elected president began a quick nationwide U.S. tour Friday after endorsing the use of Russian forces to maintain the ceasefire in the Nagorno-Karabakh war in the Caucasus Mountains.

"Only Russia is prepared to contribute its forces for peacekeeping purposes... I have no choice," President Levon Ter-Petrosian said in an interview in the New York

The president and members of his cabinet concluded a four-day official visit in Washington and flew Friday to Detroit, the first of three cities where he intended to promote U.S. investment and meet with Armenian-American community lead-

Mr. Ter-Petrosian stayed at Blair House, the presidential guest residence, during a series of Washington meetings with U.S. and international lending officials, con-gressional leaders and executives of U.S. corporations, starting with a White House welcome by President Bill Clinton.

Mr. Clinton said after their Tuesday meeting that if all parties agreed, the United States would not oppose the forces in Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave in Azerbaijan populated by Armenians seeking independence in the bloodiest ethnic conflict on former Soviet territory. The six-year war has cost 20,000 lives and uprooted more than

one million people.
"What we want is peace and we want them to help rebuild Armenia and promote the development of the entire area," Mr. Clinton said.
Mr. Ter-Petrosian said at

the White House that "the most important thing is the establishment of peace itself, and not who will do what." Elaborating in the Times interview, he said Mr. Clinton told him CSCE, the 52nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in

Europe, should oversee the peacekeeping force.

Acknowledging there is opposition to Russian peacekeepers based on memories of Soviet rule, Mr. Ter-Petrosian told the Times, "I'm confident that the officials who are in power in Russia do not have a goal of reestablishing Russia's emnire."

Azerbaijanis accuse Armenia of titling toward Russia and say any foreign monitors should be drawn from several countries. Armenia has begun to

achieve economic growth despite its devastating 1988 earthquake and the continuing conflict, Mr. Ter-Petrosian told business people in "I think Armenia has

already passed the critical stage" of post-Soviet development, he said in one speech, thanks to aggressive reforms including privatisation of farmland.

The inflation rate dropped from 82 per cent in January to zero last month while gross domestic production rose 2.7 per cent and industrial growth 4.7 per cent the first half of this year over 1993, the president said.

To continue growing, the Armenian economy now "neeeds oxygen," Mr. Ter-Petrosian said, in the form of new investment from the United States and other Western countries, he said, plus expected stabilisation support from the International

- Walt Disney Co. said it will pull the Lion King from U.S. theatre on Sept. 23, then release the film again with a new ad campaign for the Thanksgiving-Christmas holiday season. The unprecedented move comes from a company that has enjoyed unprecedented success in finding new ways to exploit its animated movies. Disney films like The Little Mermaid, Beauty And The Beast and Aladdin were released at Thanksgiving, with \$233 million in box office receipts so far. The Lion King already has captured the lion's share of the summer market. By caging it while demand to see the movie remains strong, Disney is betting it can dominate two movie seasons with one film. "I think it's one of the smartest things we've done," said Terry Press, spokeswoman for Disney's studio operations. "It's about getting the most value out of it at the best times of year." The decision was first reported in daily Variety, which noted that The Lion King will disappear from theatres, just as the American school year begins, cutting attendance, and return during the students' winter. holidays. The movie is now in 2.355 theatres. Disney. will clean the prints, prepare a new ad campaign and rereleasee it in about 1,500 theatres nationwide. This

Berlusconi call fails to convince Bossi

ROME (Agencies) — The leader of Italy's federalist Northern League Saturday poured cold water on Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's attempt to unite his embattled coalition following the lira's collapse to record lows.

League leader Umberto Bossi, Mr. Berlusconi's largest political partner, criti-cised the media tycoon for telling Italians the good times had arrived. The day worries about the government's survival drove the lira to 1,030 against the German mark.

"Berlusconi went on television and told jokes," Mr. Bossi was quoted as saying in several Italian dailies.

But state television said the two politicians met in the small hours of Saturday morning shortly after Mr. Bossi made his comments for talks which were described as "frank and cordial."

In the interviews broadcast on Friday's news bulletins, Mr. Berlusconi called on Mr. Bossi to end the constant sniping that has helped

undermine the image of his conservative government.
"Bossi should behave in the responsible manner of a government partner. To discredit the government is to

discredit the country," Mr. Berlusconi said in one of a raft of television interviews recorded after a black day on the markets. "There is a moderate majority in this country which will govern with or without the League," Mr.

Berlusconi, appointed in May after sweeping to power at the head of a right-wing alliance in March general election, later told reporters. But in comments made af-

ter Mr. Berlusconi's speech, Mr. Bossi accused the prime minister of trying to divert attention from what he said were the real issues, like the League's plans for anti-trust laws to limit the concentration of commercial power.

Media tycoon Berlusconi became embroiled in a row last month over alleged conflicts between his business

and political roles after graftbusters probed his Fininvest company and put his younger brother Paolo under house arrest. Investors have taken fright

at the bickering between coalition partners, fearing the government could prove short-lived and that it lacks the cohesion to tackle a huge budget deficit.
Mr. Berlusconi's appeal

got a lukewarm response in the Italian media Saturday, with several commentators questioning whether the prime minister should have brushed off the currency cri-

"It is evident that the degree of unity in the coalition is not such as to allow any decision to be taken," said La Repubblica newspaper in a front page editorial. Worries Berlusconi's gov-

ernment would not survive, or would not be strong enough to take tough economic decision if it did, drove the lira to a record low of 1,000 to the mark Friday.

Biarritz mayor orders sunlovers to cover-up

BIARRITZ, France (AFP) - The mayor of Swiss resort town Biarritz has ordered scantily-clad holidaymakers to cover up when leaving the resort's because after traders complained clients were coming into their shops half naked, local officials said Friday. Didier Borotra's measure stipulates that it is "rigorously forbidden for people wearing nothing more than a swimsuit to circulate outside bathing areas." adding notes that "public tranquility must be maintained and that the limits of decency must be respected." Many young surfers on the main beaches of the Atlanticcoast resort near the Spanish border were hostile to the new measure. "The mayor's decision is just typical of Biarritz: A city of selfrighteous oldies," one sneered. Mr. Borotra denied his measure, introduced at the beginning of the month, meant he was "a prude" and said "indecent outfits remain rare." "However, he said he had acted on the recommendation of several shopowners one of whom recently reported a client had come in "wearing only the bottom half of her bikini."

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Thais spend holiday cleaning the environment

BANGKOK (AP) - While

most citizens enjoyed a holiday on their queen's birthday Friday, about 10,000 people spent their day off cleaning one of Bangkok's dirtiest canals. Led by a boatload of traditional Thai musicians, a flotilla manned by govern-ment officials, students, boy and girl Scouts, reporters, and the curious took to the water to lend a hand in cleaning the 72-kilometre long Sansaeb Canal. The mission began in one of Bangkok's oldest districts, and wended its way through inner-city industrial areas, where unidentified waste-water poured into the canal, creating frothy whirlpools and pungent smells. At some points, the smell was strong enough to cause some passengers to sneeze and cough while. others covered their noses and mouths. But all along the route, waterside residents cheered, waved and canght bags of fruit and candy thrown from the boats.

Disney bets Lion King can roar twice

BURBANK, California (AP)

year's holiday movie lineup is short on youngster-oriented movies. The Lion King's chief competition will be Twentieth Century Fox's re-! make of Miracle On 34th; Street and Fox's Pagemaster, starring Macaulay Culkin. Disney officials estimate the Lion King will reward the company with \$750 million in operating profits when worl-. dwide box office and video sales are complete. Counting licensing and sales of stuffed toys, key rings. T-shirts and

hundreds of other consumer:

products, before-tax profits could exceed \$1 billion.

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KIGALI (R) — The United

Nations said a new Rwandan

on Saturday and estimated at

flood into eastern Zaire in a

Five thousand refugees left

the west Rwandan town of

haven" in southwest Rwanda

Friday and the flow was con-

timing, U.N. and aid agency

The refugees were heading

south for the border town of

Cyangugu, just inside Rwan-

de across from the east Zai-

rean town of Bukavu, which

is poorly prepared for a mas-

Refregees around the town

of Gikongoro, on the eastern

edge of the safe zone, were also packing up and starting

to trek towards Bukavu

shead of a French troop with-

started and (U.N.) Ambassa-

dor (Shahryar) Khan says we'll be lucky if only 60 per

"The movement has

drawal by Aug. 22.

officials said.

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son. The unp ove comes from nat has enjoyed ited success i ways to explo 1 movies. Distri The Little Mer ty And The Bes , were released? g, with \$233 m office receipts on King alread d the lion's sha mer market. ile demand to # remains strong betting it ca NO IBOVIE SCROOL im "I chink R! smartest the e," said Ten swoman for De operations. It the best times decision was its d that The Life , daily disappear free st as the Amer year begins, co

ance, and rette students wind he movie is 30 theatres. Disp. ne prints, prepar ampaign and f in about 15th attionwide. ay movie lineaps oungster-orient he Lion King petition will be Century Fox's fr ox's Pagemasic rials estimate by will reward th \$750 million rofits when with office and vibi d sales of stuffs ngs, T-shirts and other consumer efore-tax profit d \$1 billion.

ble criminal prosecution and Fidel Castro blames U.S. policy for a fresh influx. The Communist leader charged the United States has created conditions for another boatlift by accepting new arrivals and toughening the trade embargo. Friday: "He wants to project

MOSCOW (AP) — Not far construction crew has dug up a mass grave of human skulls Friday appears to date from the Stalin era.

The workers dug up the remains of at least 10 bodies threaday and said some of

crew members remained to show their gruesome find to

The site is at the edge of the grim, aging zoo com-pound in central Moscow. Officials from the district cent of the people move to Bukavu," said Emry Brusset, spokesman for the U.N. Emergency Office (UN-

Mr. Khan is U.N. special representative to Rwanda and from Saturday would chair a daily task force meeting to set up a strategy for the new crisis in the southwest, Mr. Brusset said.

"We are looking at one million people crossing the border (into Bukavu) in the coming week," said Mr. Brusset, adding that the U.N. planned to try to reassure refuge through an increased international aid agency pre-

sence in the southwest. The oussed former Rwandan government in exile in Zaire is urging the refugees, displaced in their own country by war and killings, to leave. The ousted officials say the Tutsi-dominated Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) will kill them if they return to their homes.

The new Rwandan government in Kigali, approved by the RPF, is campaigning with

refugees back.
Chris Janowsky, spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Rwandan capital Kigali, told reporters that 5,000 refugees had crossed the bridge linking Cyangugu to Bukavu Friday.

Only hundreds were crossing the bridge daily before

UNHCR estimates there are 700,000 displaced in the The priority is security

and that really is a political question. At the moment as humanitarian agencies we gave a strong feeling we cannot influence the movement of population," Mr. Brusset

The French medical aid agency Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF — Doctors Without Borders) said 150 people were moving Friday for each kilometre of the road from Kibuye to Cyangugu.

MSF spokeswoman Samantha Bolton said MSF Rwandan staff in Kibuye

Meanwhile Zairean troops

The killing of a resident in similar circumstances on Thursday triggered street demonstrations.

Rwandan army living at a refugee camp near the Zairean border town of Goma have agreed to move to a new

U.N. approval to coax the were demanding to be paid on a daily basis apparently because they were preparing to leave before the French pullout

The U.N. Assistance Mission In Rwanda (UNAMIR) and aid agencies have struggled for a week to avert the new tide into Zaire only four weeks after nearly one million Rwandans stampeded over the border and swamped the Zairean town of Goma.

Aid workers say that Bukavu, like Goma, will probably prove to be a disease-ridden death ground for the Rwandan refugees.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) officials in Likongoro said Friday that between 10,000 and 20,000 people had started moving westwards on the road to Cyangugu. "It's clear there is a move-

ment of people which has been picking up in the last two days," said ICRC spokeswoman Nina Winquist in Goma, where 850,000 refugees are living in camps ravaged by dysentery. cholera and other diseases.

killed another civilian in Goma Saturday in the already tense border town of Goma, U.N. officials said. The victim was apparently

a local money changer, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesman Panos Mountzis said. Goma police were not available for

Remnants of the routed



Rwandan refugees try to climb into a truck headed for Kigali in the outskirts of Kibongo 97 kilometres southeast of the Rwandan capital. As clashes between the former Hutu

site where they could eventually disband, a U.N. relief

official said Saturday. But Mr. Moumtzis said it was unclear when an estimated 20,000 men in tattered uniforms would leave the Mugunoa camp where they have mixed with Rwandan refugees since the mid-July exodus of nearly one million people into eastern Zaire.
"They have agreed to

move on to a new site as soon as possible but transportation still needs to be arranged," he told reporters, adding it was up to the Zairean author-

ities to provide it.
UNHCR officials held their first direct meeting with a Rwandan army officer whom Mr. Mountzis only

identified as Colonel Muber-

"It was agreed they would move to a new site called Sake, a few kilometres past Mugungu," he said, adding it was hoped they would then agree to take off their uniforms and disband thier un-

The troops, mostly Hutus, have been blamed by the United Nations and human rights groups for the massacres of hundreds of thousands of Tutsis in the orgy of ethnic bloodshed that preceded their defeat last month by the Tutsidominated Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF).

Their command structure has remained intact and sol-

overnment forces and the Rwandan Patriotic Front rebels (RPF) have ceased for the moment, some refugees are returning to their villages (AFP photo)

diers have been paid up to four months in advance, U.N. officials say. Their Chief of Staff General Augustin Bizimungu said recent-ly in Goma they were "busy regrouping."

There are about 300 prisoners in the jail at Kibungo, most of them former Hutu militiamen, and all accused of taking part in the mass kill-

Kibungo admit doing what they did and even boast about the number of people they killed," Jean Hakizimana, one of the prisoners, told correspondents allowed into the jail Friday.

They are sorry now of course because they say they were encouraged to kill by the politicians and by the system they had set up, said Mr. Hakizimana, a correspondent of the Radio Rwanda set up as a propaganda station by the former Humled government.

People had been forced to take part in the killings," Mr. Hakizimana said.

"Those who did not take part in the killing were arrested because they were suspected of being in league with the RPF rebels,"

The Tutsi-dominated Rwanda Patriotic Front ousted the former government last month and took control of the country.

Bosnian Serbs try more raids on U.N. depot

SARAJEVO (R) - Bosnian Serb forces tried to raid three U.N. weapons depots outside Sarajevo but French peacekeepers stood their ground, a U.N. spokesman

said Saturday. .. The latest Serb attempts to ize back heavy weapons threatens the integrity of the United Nations security zone around the capital and came only a week after NATO shed one theft with an air strike on a Serb target.

me sero stron Pale, outside Sarajevo, U.N. mediator Thorvald Stoltenberg met Bosnian Serb leaders on Saturday to lobby for an international peace plan which they have refused to

Drunken Serb soldiers attempted to force their way into an arms collection site in the Sarajevo suburb of Ilidza early Friday, said Major Rob Amink, a U.N. spokesman.

"At 0220 hours yesterday, a number of drunken soldiers attempted at the Ilidza weapons collection site to recover an anti-aircraft gun and tried to burn a U.N. flag. Guards prevented this action," Maj. Annink told a news conference.

MIAMI (AP) — The narrow

straits between Cuba and

Florida have become the

flashpoint in an intensifying

35-year fend as U.S. author-

ities detain refugees for possi-

Three hours later at dawn, Serb officers arrived at the Bare arms compound and demanded weapons back, claiming an imminent attack by the Muslim-led Bosnian

A member of the Rwandan Patriotic Front prison of Kibongo, 97 kilos (RPF) guards the entrance of a cell in the Kigali (AFP photo)

French U.N. guards drove the Serbs back. Finally, Serb troops tried to remove two Praga anti-aircraft guns from the Lukavica arms depot Friday afternoon but were blocked by French peacekeepers, Maj. Annink

Serb forces returned five heavy weapons grabbed from Ilidza a week ago after NATO jets blasted a Serb combat vehicle not far away. Last February, the Serbs withdrew artillery and other heavy weapons outside a 20kilometre radius around Sarajevo or handed them over to the United Nations under a NATO threat of air

shelling the city. Bosnian Serbs have until now defied pressure from Western and Russian diplomats and from their longtime patron, Serbian-led Yugoslavia to attempt the latest peace plan for an ethnic partition of Bosnia.

Straits of Florida focus of war of wills

His fiery remarks Thursday

night were broadcast live on U.S. television, but an exile

leader noted most Cubans

would not have been able to

watch it because of wide-

spread rotating power black-

what is a domestic Cuban

problem into a U.S. prob-

lem," Antonio Jorge, Mr.

Castro's first chief economist

and a longtime exile, said

"He's trying to transform

OUTS.

Mr. Stoltenberg held talks Friday with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, who imposed a trade blockade on the Bosnian Serbs last week to try to force them to reverse their position on the plan.

Before the U.N. envoy arrived for talks with the Bosnian Serbs, a senior leader said they would stick by their opposition to the plan and would survive Belgrade's

Conditions in Serb-held closure were "far better than we expected," Nomcilo Krajisnik, speaker of the selfdeclared Bosnian Serb parliament, was quoted as saying by the Bosnian Serb News

Agency (SRNA).
"We are fully aware of the danger of our decision and we accept it with full consciousness. If we had any other better way we would have chosen it for sure," Mr. strikes to make them stop Kraiisnik said.

> If the peace plan fails to win Serb acceptance, U.S. President Bill Clinton said this week he would seek an end to the arms embargo against the Muslim-led Bosman government.

> > problem."

United Nations officials

the notion or the image that this is a U.S. immigration

Attorney General Janet Reno vowed shortly before

Mr. Castro's speech that she

"will not permit another

Mariel" and promised to pro-

secute people for illegal cros-

sings.
The state of Florida prom-

ises no warm welcome, plan-ning to handle any influx by

quickly shifting Cubans to

military bases outside the

said it would be difficult for their peacekeeping force to remain in Bosnia if the U.N. arms embargo were lifted.

Yugoslav border police have blocked U.N. relief convoys to Serb-held areas in the past several days but U.N. aid officials said they had won an agreement for free

A spokesman for the United Nations High Commis-sioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said the agency was sending several convoys to Serb-held territory Satur-

În Sarajevo, U.N. officials said stocks of food suppplies had declined to low levels after the Serbs blocked all land convoy routes into the city for two weeks.

Several arms fire closed the U.N.-controlled airport and halted a vital air relief operation Thursday only two days after it resumed following an 18-day break.

But UNHCR officials said Serb authorities gave permission for two aid convoys headed to Sarajevo in the first overland food shipment to the capital in about a month.

U.S. and Florida officials

fear a re-enactment of the

1980 Mariel Boatlift, which

brought 125,000 Cubans to

Florida, primarily on boats

that left from the Florida

Keys. Many were free prison-

Miami's exile community

generally welcomes fleeing

Cubans with open arms, but

sentiment is strongly against

aiding anyone making the

ers and mental patients.

President: Ex-Rwandan troops threaten Burundi's stability

BUJUMBURA (AFP) - Interim President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya has warned the presence of former Rwandan ny troops and Hutu militia on his country's border could exacerbate tensions in Burundi, which fears a Rwanda-style ethnic blood-

At a meeting of political party leaders and army representatives Friday, called to discuss security in Burundi, the president criticised "the ence on the eastern border of a large proportion of the Rwandan ex-army and militia."

The "massive" presence of Rwandan refugees "risks aggravating the situation in Burundi," Mr. Ntibantunganya said.

The acting head of state also criticised the presence in Burundi of "armed bands training in the provinces," and "attacks against security forces," but gave no other

The crisis in Burundi is also being aggravated by striking students demanding the release of politician Mathias Hitimana who was arrested six days ago after he organised a student demonstration which left 17 people

Meanwhile, the World Food Programme (WFP) warned Saturday that if the rising tide of refugees from strife-torn Rwanda continued to pour into Burundi, the situation could soon become

Cecilia Ljungman, WFP spokeswoman, said "these from the province of Bugesera, in southeast Rwanda, adding to the 263,100 Rwandans who settled in Burundi after the outbreak of civil war in their country in April.

We are in an emergency situation. It's too early to tell which ethnic group these people belong to nor why they are leaving Rwanda," Burundi, like Rwanda, has

a population mix made up of a Hutu majority and a Tutsi minority. In Kwanda, the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) is now in power after ousting the Hutu-led interim govern-

Up to a million people, mainly Tutsis and moderate Hutus died in the slaughter which followed the death in a suspicious plane crash of 'Rwanda's Hutu President Juvenal Habyarimana.

Sri Lanka pre-election death toll hits 18

COLOMBO (R) - Gunmen killed an opposition party worker Saturday, bringing Sri Lanka's pre-election death toll to 18.

The victim's People's Alliance (PA) accused the ruling United National Party (UNP) of complicity in the

The man was shot dead while walking home after completing work on a stage

for a PA rally in the western Gampaha district, police

Eleven million people are eligible to vote in Sri Lanka's parliamentary poll Tueday, an election contested by 13 parties and 26 independent groups, campaigning ended at midnight Saturday.

The deputy leader of the PA, Chandrika Kumarana-

that the killers came in a jeep belonging to a government minister.

"Since the government knows it is going to lose this election, its leaders are killing innocent people. It is clear that it is the government that is running this violence," Ms. Kumaranatunga said.

She called for an immediate investigation into the PA tunga, alleged in a statement supporter's death.

Murayama regrets minister's war remarks

TOKYO (AFP) — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama expressed regret Saturday over a claim made by a minister in his coalition government that the country did not wage a war of aggression in Asia during World

War 11. The message of regret was being conveyed to South Korea, China and South East Asian nations through Japanese embassies on Mr. Murayama's behalf, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The Socialist prime minister, who is due to visit four South East Asian nations later this month, told reporters that the remarks of State Minister for Environmental Affairs Shin Sakurai, were 'extremely regrettable.'

Mr. Sakurai told reporters after a cabinet meeting early Friday: "I don't think Japan fought with the aim of waging a war of aggression."
"I don't think we should take the position that Japan

was the only one that was

wrong," he added. Mr. Murayama said that he had "strictly admonished" Mr. Sakurai, a member of the Liberal Democratic Parry (LDP), for making the re-

marks. Despite suggestions that he fire Mr. Sakurai, the premier said he had entrusted Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, the LDP presiground of the controversy. "I will accordingly consider how to respond," the premier

Socialist Party Secretary General Wataru Kubo demanded Mr. Sakurai step down from his post on his own initiative because he ran counter to the "political stance and historical view" of

the Murayama government. He recalled that the premier clearly acknowledged Japan's World War II aggression in Asia when he took The Communist Party also

sought Mr. Sakurai's dismissal, saying, "it is not a ques-tion that can be corrected just by a verbal retraction of the remarks." Mr. Sakurai, 61, also said

that people must also consider that Asian nations gained independence from European colonial rule and that literacy spread because of Japan's wartime policies.

He was referring to a question about a no-war resolution under consideration in parliament for the 50th anniversary of Japan's surrender in World War II. The 49th anniversary will fall Monday.

But after the remarks sparked protests in Seoul, Mr. Sakurai called his statements "inappropriate." Korea was colonised by militarist Japan from 1910 until the end of World War II.

Mr. Sakurai became the second Japanese cabinet minister in three months to gloss over Japan's wartime

actions. In early May, conservative Shigeto Nagano quit his post as justice minister after sparking protests at home and abroad with his remark that Japanese troops' massacre of more than 100 000 Chinese in Nanjing in 1937 was a "fabrication.

He also called it "wrong' to say Japan had waged a war

Mr. Nagano, 71, a former army chief of staff, had just been named justice minister. China said Saturday it regretted remarks by the

Japanese cabinet minister. A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman was quoted by New China News Agency as saying Mr. Sakurai "brazenly made remarks which distorted historical facts."

The spokesman said the international community had already drawn conclusions on the history of aggression by that adopting a correct attitude towards history was an important basis for Sino-Japanese relations, the agen-

He expressed hope that the Japanese government would issue and "avoid disturbing the normal development of friendly ties between Japan and China."

Mass grave of Stalin victims found in Moscow Zoo dent, to probe the backnew refugees are arriving prosecutor's office, who in an entertainment centre in bones were found below it, at downtown Vilnius, the ordered work to be stopped, a depth of about two metres

from crowds pressing around animal cages at the city 200, a and bones that officials said

the skulls had single bullet holes - a trademark of the NKVD secre police, notorious forerunner of the KGB. Digging at the site, intended to become a new bear Cage, was halted Friday. But

"Here's a skull," said mustachioed foreman Vladimir Allik, pointing to a heap of bone on a metal plate. "And there's another one, over

suspect the bones might belong to victims of terror un-leashed by Josef Stalin in the

"It looks like it, but we cannot be sure. At the moment, we can't even say how old are the bones or whether these are actually bullets holes. We've sent the bones to forensic experts,"said Igor Koniushkin, acting prosecu-

"Several such sites found in the past turned out to be old graveyards," he said in a telephone interview.

The Soviet dictator killed millions of people in labour camps and secret police dungeons. Tens of thousands were executed in city prisons, then dumped in unmarked mass graves or brought covertly to graveyards. Mass graves have been

turning up in recent years,

including one found recently

Lithuanian capital. Authorities believe thousands of bodies of Lithuanians executed by Soviet secret police are buried beneath the street Up to 28,000 bodies of

political prisoners are believed to be buried in Butovo, a former killing field on the southern edge of Moscow, and another 16,000 at the nearby Kommunarka state farm, according to Russian officials. Even in a country growing

somewhat accustomed to reports of Soviet atrocities, the 200 grave report was frontpage news in Moskovsky Komosolets, one of Russia's top-selling daily newspapers. The daily said the site was

once used for young animals

— a sort of playguard for cubs built soon after World

War II. Old asphalt can be

seen in the trench. But the

(6.6 feet). Mr. Koninshkin said au-

thorities were checking city

records to determine what used to be on the site. "After all that is done, we will decide whether to launch a criminal investigation," he said. Time is pressing, as

construction has to con-

Luckily for the cashstrapped zoo, where animals and birds languish inside their cages amid debris and stale water, the grave is well out of sight. Beyond workers at the site, not a single visitor or labourer at the 200, now under reconstruction. appeared to know about the

Mr. Allik, the foreman, was convinced this week's find was not the end of it. "I'm sure we'll find more once we resume digging," he

bones.

Germany makes biggest plutonium seizure MUNICH (AP) — Police made the biggest seizure yet of bomb-quality plutonium while arresting three men at Munich Airport who had just arrived from Moscow on a

said Saturday. The plane landed Wednesday night and the plutonium — 500 grammes (17.5 ounces), a senior German official said — was found in the baggage of one of the passengers. Experts have speculated

that twice that amount of

Lufthansa plane, authorities

extremely pure plutonium 239, in the hands of an expert with sophisticated equipment, could be fashioned into a nuclear bomb. A Bavarian state police spokesman, speaking on con-

dition he not be named, told

the Associated Press that two

Spaniards and another person were arrested. The Spaniards were probably counters for Russian atomic scientists, the Bavarian interior minister, Guenter Beckstein, told Spiegel magazine in excerpts released Saturday. Spiegel magazine said Vik-

tor Sidorenko, the deputy Russian minister for atomic energy, was aboard the plane on which the smugglers landed. He was flying into Germany to attend a meeting with the Bavarian officials about civilian nuclear projects, the magazine said. It quoted authorities as having initially suspected Mr.

Sidorenko, adding they couldn't confirm their suspicions. It was the third instance in which bomb-quality pluto-

Germany, which appears to be a focal point of smugglers bringing in nuclear material from the former Soviet Un-

calls the smuggling trend the "greatest long-term threat to the security of the United States" since the end of the cold war.

FBI Director Louis Freeh

German authorities suspect that the ultimate buyers of nuclear material could be terrorist groups. Police in Germany,

Switzerland, Austria and elsewhere have nabbed dozens of swindlers peddling radioactive material, also poisonous but not capable of being made into atomic bombs. There were 267 such cases in Germany alone between 1991 and the end of nium had been confiscated in 1993, according to police.

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Jordan deserves support

U.S. PRESIDENT Bill Clinton's call on the other Paris Club members to match Washington's investment in peace in the Middle East by ridding Jordan of its external debts makes a lot of sense.

The Middle East is of concern not only to the U.S. but also to other members of the club, mainly Western Europe which is even closer to the region geographically, politically and economically. Thus if the U.S. saw wisdom in investing in peace in the region it stands to reason that the other Western countries would do the

After all any such investment is not totally a benevolent one since a peaceful Middle East would in turn provide additional security and create a big profitable market for the West as a whole and not just to the U.S. A more stable region would certainly establish the right kind of environment that would be conducive for economic growth on a scale unknown before and make the oil supply lines even safer. The countries of the area would naturally look for the West for economic cooperation and trade. All in all therefore Western Europe stands to gain substantially from investing in peace.

It is true that Jordan is taking its risks for peace at a time when the country is still weakened by many factors most of which are attributable to the huge debt burden hanging over its shoulders. The country's ability to continue the path of building peace, however, cannot be expected to continue without a robust economy. The ability of the government to win wider support for peace with Israel is totally dependent on its ability to show the benefits of peace to the people. As long as unemployment is rampant and poverty continues to affect more and more Jordanians, the support for peace with Israel can only wane in due course. That is why the friends of peace are called upon to translate their pious commitments to reaching an Arab-Israeli solution into actions by relieving Jordan from its huge extra debt burdens whether emanating from the U.S. or Western Europe, or by stepping up economic aid to the Kingdom by rich Arab countries and Japan.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IT IS natural and logical to see the official governmen agencies and departments embarking on measures designed to help the country prepare itself for the coming stage of peace in the Middle East as directed by His Majesty King Hussein, said Al Ra'l daily Saturday. The King's directives were reiterated and reaffirmed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in his addresses to public rallies held in Agaba and Ma'an in the past two days, during which he reflected the Jordanian leadership's determination to stimulate hard work to attain the nation's goals and aspirations by deeds rather than words, said the daily. The looming challenges facing the country makes it imperative on all its citizens to reconsider past attitudes and patterns of work and study new and very objective and constructive patterns that can build up a modern state, capable of entering the coming decade with self-confidence, added the paper. The paper said that the calls of King Hussein and Prince Hassan are directed to the ministers as well as Parliament members and other officials and workers, urging them to build the institutions of a

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour Saturday criticised the French government for its current campaign against the Islamists in France who voice support for the Islamic movement in their home country. Saleh Qallab said any move to oppress the two million Algerian community in France will backfire and implicate the French government in complications and will adversely affect French interests in France and abroad. Referring to a French government decision to step up security campaigns against the Islamists in France in the wake of the blast at the French embassy in Algerians in France, the French government can achieve no positive results and can by no means stop the support of the Algerian people for the Islamic movement's actions in Algeria. The writer said that Algerian and French interests are so much entangled that it becomes imperative on the French government to take very cautious steps in this

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

Jordan's economy to prosper under peace

PEACE WILL reduce military expenditure which used to consume a sizeable portion of the budget. It will induce more local. Arab and foreign investments and enhance trade. But the most important result of peace lies in the removal of some negative factors and bottlenecks which were hindering economic progress in the desired speed.

The first negative factor that comes to mind is foreign ndebtedness, which puts Jordan under pressure on annual basis. We don't know for sure whether or not the Paris Club will agree to reschedule instalments and capitalise interest which fall due within a year or a little longer period. The probability that it will not is remote, but it is nevertheless a real possibility, in which case a foreign currency crisis will be around the corner. Under peace conditions, it is hoped that at least half the foreign indebtedness amounting to \$1 billion will be written off. Rescheduling of the remaining balance will be taken for granted.

Prindent foreign investors would not be involved in a heavily indebted country, because its stability will be threatened constantly. International creditworthiness of a given country is not acceptable if its foreign debts exceeded 75 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP). Unless Jordan's indebtedness is somehow reduced from its present high level of 134 per cent of GDP to below 75 per cent, Jordan will not be qualified to attract meaningful foreign investments. In other words, no flow of foreign investment would be realistically expected before Jordan's debt is reduced to half its present level. Only peace can make that

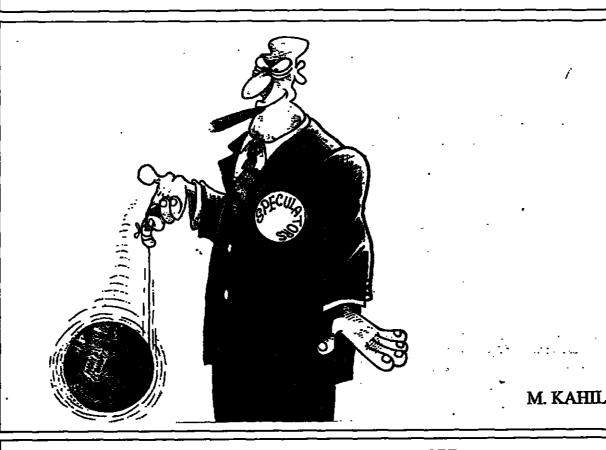
On the other hand, lack of external security is in itself an important economic subject of first degree. The building of large scale economic projects in Aqaba and near the Dead Sea was a risky operation, because those projects were easy targets in case of armed struggle. Peace will remove that risk. It becomes possible to start more projects in any part of the country without having to worry about the element of exposure to the risk of destruction in case hostilities crupt.

Another result of the state of war is the fact that Jordan became a recipient of human waves of refugees and displaced Palestinians, which increased its burden beyond its means. The situation may get even worse when the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) eventually reduces its contribution or withdraw altogether due to financial or political considerations. Peace is supposed not only to protect Jordan from further human waves and continued influx of refugees, displaced persons, and returnees, it will also lead to the return of many displaced Palestinians, who came after June 1967 and will choose to return home once they are given the right to do so.

Water is a vital element of civilian and economic life. Jordan suffers a water shortage crisis which could not be dealt with except under peace circumstances. A fair distribution of common water resources will help Jordan to deal with this crisis, allow civilian and industrial growth and mini the hardshir

Finally, Jordan was subjected to trade boycott by Israel not only in the Israeli market, but also in the West Bank market. Peace is supposed to give Jordan access to the West Bank market, will encourage growth in the fields of industry, agriculture and services.

after peace, yet the most important assistance is what the Jordanian people can extend to itself through hard work and higher efficiency. Although foreign aid to Jordan may increase substantially



'Big brother' surveillance sparks debate in France

By Paul Taylor

PARIS --- France claims to be the motherland of liberty, but a spate of recent criminal cases has sparked debate over the extent of "big brother" surveillance. Should a judge be able to order the tapping of a mem-ber of parliament's home

telephone in a tax investiga-Should police and even private detectives be granted access to electronic recorder that make it possible to trace a credit card

owner's every step? Should the police and private security companies be entitled to keep an unsus-pecting public under video surveillance?

Should itemised tele-phone data be used to trace any call months after it was made from a private home or hotel?

These are only some of the ethical questions raised by detection techniques made possible by new technology.

In philosophical terms, the debate pits those who argue that crime fighters should be able to use every available means to track down increasingly sophisti-cated criminals, while honest citizens have nothing to hide, against civil libertatians who fear a creeping, sinister invasion of citizens'

In political terms, it pits right-wing Interior Minister Charles Pasqua against Socialist President Francois Mitterrand.

Mr. Pasqua last month presented a bill to senate authorising video surveillance in areas with a high crime risk and allowing the police to stop and search vehicles for weapons in the

vicinity of demonstrations.

Mr. Mitterrand voiced concern at what he called encroachments on fundamental civil rights.

He said video surveillance should be under the

control of the National ion on Information Technology and Freedom (CNIL), an independent data-protection

watchdog. Mr. Pasqua refused, saying video surveillance already existed in a legal vacuum and his law would limit and codify its use. He pledged to make authorisation subject to the approval of a commission of jurists and businessmen.

Mr. Mitterrand also said the proposed car searches risked undermining the basic freedom to demonstrate. Mr. Pasqua retorted that the right to protest did not include a right to viowhich makes it possible for police or banks to retrace each transaction or cash withdrawal.

Last month, Paris police released to the media a picture of a man photographed by a hidden surveillance camera drawing money from a cashpoint in the street using the mic-rochip card of a woman murdered a few hours ear-

While television stations prudently described the man as a witness the police wished to interview, a newspaper immediately branded him the "cash card

Digital telephone switch: boards or key cards used

"In philosophical terms, the debate pits those who argue that crime fighters should be able to use every available means to track down increasingly sophisticated criminals...against civil libertarians who fear a creeping, sinister invasion of citizens' privacy."

"We cannot allow some people to walk around armed with impunity," the minister said.

Both sides in the debate agree that modern technology makes it easier than in the past to spy on the

Joel Boyer, head of the CNIL's legal department, said that as long as the storage of data was legally regulated and citizens had the choice not to use technologies, such as cards, that indentified the user, liberty was not at risk.

"Alongside technological surveillance, we need a permanent ethical surveillance," he said in an inter-

Among revolutionary changes has been the proliferation of credit cards incorporating microchips

with a personal identity number to enter offices, while they may be legiti-mate means of controlling access and preventing abuse, also provide means of covert surveillance of the

Microchip toll cards used on France's pay-motorways enable investigators to check when a suspect was on the road and even calculate at what average speed. Mr. Boyer said there was

nothing wrong with such technologies provided peo-ple retained the right to use a non-identifying telephone card or pay cash in phone booths and at toll gates. When a former minister

testified in an investigation last year that he had been in soccer boss and politician Bernard Tapie's office on a given time, investigators

motorway toll card to cast doubt on his evidence. In the same case, police used computerised hotel

used the record of his

telephone records to prove that officials to Mr. Tapie's Marseille soccer club had been in touch with players on the opposing team the night before an allegedly rigged match. Mr. Boyer said state-

owned France Telecom was bound by law to store ite-mised telephone records for one year in case bills were challenged. Police could authorised by a judge in a specific investigation.

He cited the case of a hotel which used itemised guest who had left without paying, by calling the num-bers he had dialled until it obtained his address.

The CNIL now recom-mended that hotels wipe telephone records as soon as a guest has paid his bill, Mr. Boyer said. Telephone tapping and bugging are nothing new in

France. In the early 1970s, security men were caught red-handed installing bugs in the walls of the satrical weekiy Le Canard Enchaine. No one was ever Only last year, the news-

paper Liberation revealed that in the mid-1980s, a now-dissolved security unit in Mr. Miterrand's office had intercepted the phone calls of journalists, lawyers and even an actress who was a friend of a top presidential aide.

But when a Paris judge had Mr. Taipe's telephone bugged last month in a probe into alleged tax fraud, critics said the move was a disproportionate infringement on the MP's rights. A transcript of one call was leaked to the press.

The national assembly has since passed an amendment stating that the speaker must be notified if a member's phone is tapped.

U.S. says 'soon' but never 'when' about Haiti invasion

By Lisa M. Hamm The Associated Press SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — The Clinton administration's continuing reluctance to set a deadline for Haiti's military regime to step down sounds a new note on a now-familiar theme: Bare the teeth, but don't bite. Secretary of State Warren

Christopher reiterated the U.S. position Tuesday in Shannon, Ireland: "We are not giving them an ultimatum or setting a deadline at the The United Nations, at

U.S. urging, has authorised the use of force, if necessary, to overthrow Haiti's brutal army rulers and to reinstate elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, ousted in a

"It's time for them to go," President Bill Clinton has said often.

But when? The United States has found scores of ways to get around that ques-tion, while hoping international snactions against Haiti will succeed in forcing out the army leaders without an inva-

An invasion "is not imminent if you measure imminence in terms of today, tomorrow, in hours and days," William Gray, Mr. Cinton's special adviser on Harti, said July 13. "But we're going to look at our

In the Haitian capital of Port-Au-Prince over the weekend, U.S. Ambassador William Swing belittled the army's latest assertions of defiance as "the dying gasps of a spent force.

He used the exact same ssion three months earlier to describe the new armyinstalled government headed by President Emile Jonas-

"The time of negotiations is over," U.S. embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager said in mid-July, after 14 naval ships carrying nearly 3,000 Marines moved into position off Haiti. "We cannot wait a long time."

A few days later, Mr. Gray told the Associated Press, "there is no deadline," for

Haiti's military leaders to get

out. "We do not draw a line in the sand. We expect them to leave and leave immediately." U.N. Ambassador

Madeleine Albright said the ambiguity was deliberate. "We have not said what 'soon" means specifically, because we want the pressure here to work," she said. Mr. Aristide has sounded

the same vague note. "The day of my return is not far off," he told his countrymen in the inaugural broadcast last month of Radio Democracy, transmitted from U.S. planes flying over Haiti. He didn't say when.

Earlier this week, Mr. Aristide said in Washington that his return would be a matter of days. A U.S. official, similarly indeterminate, said it would be more like

weeks. But no matter how vague the language about invasion timing, the army commander, Lt.-Gen. Raonl Cedras, seems to take the threat seriously — especially since the U.N. vote. He told CNN over the weekend, "it's been decided to invade... and we are getting ready."

The Haitian army paraded a group of new recruits, many of them teenagers and old men, in the litter-strewn park between the national palace and army headquarters in an attempted display of

Meanwhile, the U.S. flotilla stands by, enforcing the trade embargo, and waiting. Its leaders are no less ambiguous about the likelihood of an invasion.

They are trained to go in specifically to evacuate people, and leave. They are not trained to be an invasion force," Lt. Jeff Breslau of the U.S. Atlantic Command said, in announcing two more warships were headed for

Haiti. Then he added, "the military option is open and they're trained to conduct other types of operations."
While the rhetoric con-

tinues, Haiti's impoverished and frightened people sit and

Cuban authorities respond to unrest with offensive

By Frances Kerry

HAVANA - Cuban authorities have responded to last week's unprecedented street clashes in Havana with an aggressive offensive, rallying support for the revolution and furiously condemning the United

By Monday, there was little sign that the capital of the Communist-ruled Caribbean island had been shaken Friday by a rare display of public discontent.

But groups of police and civilian law enforcement brigades still manned some street corners in the troubled area along a stretch of the Malecon sea-front drive where people throwing rocks clashed for several hours with police Friday. Authorities said 35 peo-

ple were injured and an "important" number

Culminating a fever of pro-revolutionary activity since the unrest, hundreds of thousands of Cubans officials put the figure at 600,000 — were mobilised for a mass rally in the capital's revolution square Sunday evening.

The gathering, given blanket coverage by state-run media, was intended

both to honour a policeman killed in a ferry boat hijacking last week, and to deliver a resounding response to the disturbances. In a heating up of Hava-

na's long-running war of words against Washington, blame has been squarely pinned on the United States by officials from President Fidel Castro down.

The key argument, playing on nationalist sentiment and used forcefully over the last few days, is that Washington, which maintains a longstanding economic embargo against Cuba, wants to bring the country to its knees, create disorder and then intervene militari"The logical close of this strategy to destroy the re-volution would have to be the direct intervention of U.S. forces in Cuba," said the official trade union newspaper Trabajadores in

an editorial Monday. Mr. Castro threatened to flood the United States with Cuban emigrants if Washington did not change an immigration policy that Havana views as stimulating illegal exists.

Admitting, as Mr. Castro did Saturday, that there is a degree of discontent in Cuba amid the current economic crisis, the newspaper said the key response on the "strategic, economic, poli-tical, ideological and milit-ary" fronts had to be the battle to increase food pro-

The island was plunged into difficulties by the collapse of its former aid and trade partner the Soviet Union.With imports slashed and domestic production badly hit by lack of supplies, Cuba's 11 million inhabitants are facing chronic shortages of just about

everything.

As the "special period" drags on despite current cautious economic reform, the number of people leav-ing the island illegally by sea to cross to Florida has jumped this year.

And many Cubans grumble openly about the shortages of food, transport and power.

"Things are very hard and many people are fed up." said one woman sheltering in an apartment entrance as rocks flew on a street behind the malecon last Friday, "But violence is not the solution."

Authorities have presented the people involved in the disturbances, trig-gered by a spate of ferry boat hijackings toward the United States, as delinquents, "anti-social ele-ments" and vandals, manipulated by U.S. propaganPLO share Jerus

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In Washington, State Department spokesman David Johnson said: "Both parties in the talks are seriously engaged, through the United States, in a probing discussions sion of the needs of the

shrine — on Friday.

Dr. Shaath spent Friday

night in Jerusalem and re-

turned to the Gaza Strip on

Saturday to attend the meet-

ing of the Palestinian author-

PLO to send team to Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

have to learn in peace to share Jerusalem," Dr. Shaath said in an Israeli radio inter-

Dr. Shaath, in his first visit

to Jerusalem in 46 years,

'Israel cannot ignore Iraq'

(Continued from page 1)

extend to us invitations we do not desire.

He responded by saying that Israel should be asked whether it wanted Iraq involved in multilateral negotitions on issues like security, economic cooperation and

"I think Iraq can play an important role in these mat-ters," he said. "However, if Iraq will take such a decision at this particular stage, we

will have to wait and see." Mr. Hummadi's remarks were published in the Iraqi newspaper Babel, which is owned by President Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday, on Saturday.

Woerner passes away at 59

(Continued from page 1)

Soviet Union's satellites in Eastern Europe discard communism, the collapse of the Warsaw Pact, the signing of a andmark European arms accord and a major war in the Gulf against Iraq.

His own country absorbed formerly communist East Germany, bringing it under NATO's protective umbrella. The alliance forged new diplomatic and military links with its old enemies, restructured its forces and rewrote its strategy.

Woerner made ground-breaking visits to Moscow and other Eastern European capitals but remained committed to coherent Western defences as "insurance policy" against instability.

When the crisis in former Yugoslavia brought conflict s) to Europe for the first time since World War II, Woemer pushed hard to create a role tor a NATO alongside the aiti's impoveish to United Nations.

ened people sits, in. The alliance helped enforce a U.N. ban on flights over Bosnia and when a NATO fighter shot down Serb planes violating the ban in February 1994, it marked the alliance's first combat ac-

At the same time, a NATO threat of air strikes forced the Serbs to withdraw their siege guns from around Sarajevo. Woerner claimed these actions as proof the alliance was still needed.

Only last week, NATO planes were in action again --hitting a tank destroyer near Sarajevo to punish Bosnian Serbs who had snatched heavy weapons from a U.N.

Woemer fell seriously ill with cancer of the colon in 1992 but continued to maintain a punishing work sche-

He underwent another opin Bosnia, often against the

Woerner is survived by his second wife, Elfriede Hartwig. He had no children from either marriage.

Argentina: No break in Iran ties

(Continued from page 1)

on Friday described Mr. Motamer as an impostor.

A relative of Mr. Motamer said a childhood of hardship pushed the man to lie against Iran, the Iranian news agency

It quoted Majid Izadi-Fard, his brother-in-law, as saying Mr. Motamer's financial troubles and his childbood as an orphan pushed him to "play a part in the propaganda campaign launched by the U.S. and Israel against Iran," the agency

"Living in an orphanage caused Motamer to develop psychological complexes," IRNA quoted Mr. Izadi-Fard, said to be Mr. Motamer's close friend and former

business associate, as saying. "Based on my 17-year-long acquaintance with Motamer, I dare say, financial problems have forced him to make up such stories about Iran," said Mr. Izadi-Fard.

Argentina used Motamer as its sole witness against the Iranians sought for the

His testimony, given in Venezuela, was the basis for international warrants issued for the arrest of the officials. The Argentine government on Friday said it saw no need for any further contact with

attack there.

Mr. Motamer and indicated it tina during World War II to would not provide asylum if escape Nazi Germany. he requested it.

France indicts 2 suspects

(Continued from page 12)

self-defence." He added: "Anyone who helps the Algerian regime Mr. Messai said his orga-

UNIKOM's mandate was widened to include use of physical force to prevent or

sert boundary. raised border tension as did a further, smaller series of Iraqi incursions in November

the inland city of Abuja. Oil workers demanding

Is Clinton's overexposure part of his problem?

By Steve Holland Reuter

WASHINGTON - He speaks so much in public his throat is often raw. he has offered opinions on everything from Bosnia to Zoxer shorts. He is photographed running, walking, standing, stretching, gesturing, even sweating.

But in spite of all his exposure, or perhaps partly be-cause of it, U.S. President Bill Clinton now has relative low popular support in America — an approval rating of only 47 per cent in a Washington Post-ABC news poll out this week, backing of just 42 per cent in a recent USA Today survey. Can it be that the president

is overexposed? "There's no question that the currency has been de-valued," said political expert Thomas Mann of Washington's Brookings Institution. The prresident speaks too much — too little in formal settings and too much in informal settings, he's always being photographed and recorded, videotaped, offering observations and explanations that make him sort of commonplace."

White House officials admit the overexposure problem has been, as one described it, the subject of many meetings and the subject of a lot of scratched heads."

'We've been concerned about that for quite some time," this official said. "He's overscheduled." Mr. Clinton's new chief of

staff, Leon Panetta, recognises the prolem. When Mr. Clinton recently announced stepped-up aid for Rwanda's refugee crisis, he was supposed to deliver an opening statement, then leave other officials to answer questions. Instead, he stayed on to field a few himself — and when Mr. Panetta heard that,

By James Jukwey

Reuter

LAGOS - Moshood

Abiola, who claims Nigeria's presidency, and general Sani Abacha, who holds it

are locked in a struggle neither seems able to win or

After more than a year of

crisis the country is para-lysed by strikes and

periodic riots. Ethnic ten-sion between north and

"Abacha is not going to cede power to Abiola and

Abiola cannot now with-

draw his challenge," says a

stalemate that means a long

period of unrest for Nigeria

unless one party is per-

suaded to give way. Right

now that does not seem

likely. Abioa, a millionaire

businessman heading for

victory in a June 1993 pres-

idential election when Gen.

Abacha's military predeces-

sor, who had repeatedly

promised to restore demo-

cratic rule, voided the vote.

in the resulting anarchy.
"Mr. Abiola, struggling to regain his election

momentum, proclaimed himself president on the

anniversary of the poll, the

first time a defiant civilian

has presented army rulers

treason, a capital offence,

sparked street protests that

have killed up to 100 peo-

ple, according to human

the criminal history of the

world that someone who

won an election is being

charged for treason," said

crusading Lagos lawyer Femi Falana, a leading member of the Campaign

for Democracy pressure

group.

Mr. Falana and many

other Yoruba-speaking

southwesterners news are

highly resentful of the fact

that the first of their kins-

men to come so close to

political power was not only

cheated of it but now faces

northerners or southerners,

want the military out of

power. But in the southwest

the people feel it is also a

matter of injustice to

them," says a former politi-

Most of the riots have

"Nigerians, whether

a humiliating trial.

This is the first time in

rights groups.

His arrest on charges of

with such a challenge.

Gen. Abacha took power

"We are looking at a

south is rising. Analysts

no end is in sight.

western diplomat.

to break off.

support (AFP photo) he ran down the hallway towards the press room, his

face livid. "Why is he still in there?" he was overheard shouting. "It's supposed to be 'thank you' and out of there." The danger in such improptu news conferences, as Mr. clinton advisers see it, is that he will be drawn into

questions that run counter to and obscure — the day's

AN OVEREXPOSED PRESIDENT: Partly because of his overexposure President Clinton now has low popular

But indicative of Mr. Clinton's tendencies to gab at every opportunity, he mused aloud after his Rwanda appearance that he should have answered a question about the baseball strike. Mr. Panetta has promised

some changes in the operation of the White House, and the Communications Department has been a subject of some criticism. There has been speculation inside the White House that a shakeup will take place.

Mr. Clinton likens his popularity problems to those of Harry Truman, who tried

to address national problems and controversies in the immediate post-war period.

"Harry Trumana gladiy let his popularity drop from 80 per cent to 36 per cent to keep our eye on the bail, to rebuild the country and recapture the rest of the world," he said at a Democratic Party fundraiser re-

But his backers are perplexed that Mr. Clinton does not seem to be getting credit for an economy improving on his watch. The Post-ABC poll said 50 per cent of Americans disapproved of his handling of the economy, even though nearly four million new jobs have been created since he took office 18

months ago.

He and his staff believe his ratings have also been hurt by an expensive campaign waged against his health care reform plan.

"When you're in the middle of a very difficult battle and you're fighting an enormous group of special in-terests who have an interest in preserving the status quo. you take your share of the licks," spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said.

But Mr. Clinton has many problems clawing at him, including the Whitewater landdeal investigation, sexual harassment claims pressed by former Arkansas employee Paula Jones, Haiti, North Korea, Bosnia and a variety of the character issues.

Add now the name of Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy. The Justice Department has asked a court to appoint an independent counsel to investigate charges Mr. Espy took illegal gifts from a chicken processing firm, part of an industry he oversees.

Analysts see the nagging Mr. Clinton character issue as devastating when combined with public distrust of government

"Clinton's problem has very little to do with policy," said Larry Sabato, a political scientist at the University of Virginia. "It has everything to do with his persona. He is intensely disliked by a large segment of the American public, and nothing that he does will change thier minds,



A SHORT-LIVED HAPPINESS: Moshood country's cancelled elections which he unoffi-Abiola, who claims Nigeria's presidency but is cially won (AFP photo) currently behind bars, laughs during the

Nigerian rivals locked in stalemate

halt exports of crude oil, the only significant source of foreign income.

The oil unions remained

adamant even when the umbrella Nigerian Labour

the high court offering Mr. Abiola bail — on conditions which effectively meant the end of his campaign for the presidency.

down. "If nothing happens on

obsetvet. "The oil unions will be cause for us it is a question of now or never," said Wa-Iebi Agamene, president of the Blue-Collar Workers Union Nupeng, which set off the strike last month.

the south but because northerners dominate the government, much of the proceeds goes to projects in other areas, leaving the oilproducing areas neglected. For the past two years

there have been clashes between oil-producing communities and oil firms whom they accuse of devasting their areas ecologically and leaving nothing behind.
"We are supporting his case is

like that of oil-producing areas," Mr. Agemene, who is from the oil-producing state of Delta, told Reuters. "We've been cheated for

His union's less effective northern chapters, however, have refused to join the strike.

Nineteen professors from the University of Ibadan in the southwest suggested on Wednesday that the government release all political detainees and let Mr. Abiola head a transitional government.

we have been diving," they said in a signed article in the Guardian newspaper.

The military insists that

British military faces bill for discrimination

By Patricia Reaney Reuter

LONDON - Eleven years see the humour. ago Katrina Key had a prom-Army until she was dismissed for becoming pregnant.

After seven years of service, the 30-year-old recruitment officer was forced to resign under a government policy that excluded expectant mothers from the armed forces.

"I lost my home and my career. It was a massive upheaval," said the woman who had planned to make the military her lfie.

"I had fought to get the position and was specially trained. It was a very attractive job which I loved, but they made it very clear that I had to leave."

Ms. Kay was just one of 5.700 women sacked by the military between 1978 and 1990 because of pregnancy. More than 4,000 have filed claims that legal experts estimate could cost the government up to £200 million (\$308

The Defence Ministry, which has admitted that its policy was unlawful, has settled 2,259 cases at a cost of £18 million (\$28 million). It has also changed its rules and since 1990 mothers can return to the military after having

But for women like Ms. Kay the reversal came a decade too late. An industrial tribunal

awarded her £110,000 (\$169,000) for her troubles. Josephine Green, a former nursing officer and single mother received a reported £400,000 (\$602,000) and exarmy Major Helen Home-wood got £300.000 (\$453,000).

The amounts of compensation, some of which the government is appealing against, have incited a national debate pitting the military establishment against legal and womens' groups. "We were paying these

large sums to women who have become pregnant while men who have suffered horrific injuries have received far less," Sir Archie Hamilton, a former Armed Forces minister, said in a newspaper inter-"Soldiers look on it all as a

joke. It is so ridiculous they produce cartoons about it. added Major-General Sir Jeremy Moore, a commander in the 1982 Falklands war. But Norman Lamb, a solicitor and organiser of the

Armed Forces pregnancy dis-

missal group which represents the women, failed to "These women have had successful, powerful careers

snatched from them." he said. "They have experienced real anger and hurt because something they worked hard to achieve had been taken Mr. Lumb started the

group, which includes lawyers from 300 firms, in 1992 after he represented three women who had been sacked. "I realised they were a smallpart of a much larger picture." he said.

A rush of claims followed a European Court of Justice ruling last August which said there should be no fixed upper limit in discrimination cases involving public sector workers. Previously pay-ments in Britain had been held at £11,000 (\$16,000).

In a ground-breaking case Jacqui Thornber, 33, who was sacked by the Royal Air Force in 1985 won £22,000 (\$34,000) in an out-of-court settlement. The Ministry of Defence admitted discrimination but questioned the compensation.

Mr. Lamb defends the settlements, which are based on rank, lost wages, pension rights, other benefits and injury to feelings.

"The government broke the law," he said. "Other countries have been much more enlightened and allowed maternity leave."

The Equal Opportunities Commission, which has long championed women's rights, applauded the awards and showed little sympathy for the government.

These women are entitled to compensation," a spokeswoman said. "The cost to the Ministry of Defence could have been avoided. Their practices had been discriminatory and unlawful for

Ms. Kay believes much of the criticism is unjustified and could be avoided if the government acted reasonably. "I should not have been dragged through the court, The army offered me £4,000 (\$6,150) which wouldn't have covered my legal costs,"

Anthony Morris, the head of the Industrial Tribunal which awarded Ms. Kay's settlement, explained its action.

"It is quite wrong to compare these cases to military pensions, for example, where no award has been made by any court," he said after the

Bouez: Breakthrough possible

(Continued from page 1)

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The Syrian Al Baath newspaper Friday said Syria was working "very seriously" to-ward a settlement with Israel.

prayed at the Al Aqsa Mosque — Islam's third holiest

Iraq would "determine its own position on pan-Arab issues," he added.

tion in its history.

eration in 1993 and then again early this year. He interrupted his convalescence several times to chair vital NATO meetings on the crisis

advice of his doctors.

Argentina has meanwhile

stepped up security following

warnings of the possibility of another attack like the July 18 bombing. Police and security forces beefed up troop strength at the borders, airports, hydroelectric dams, communica-

tions centres and other strategic points, the govern-ment said. The coast guard reported that it has apprehended a man carrying a fake French passport trying to enter the port in Buenos Aires and head on to Uruguay. BBC

radio reported that he was an Iranian national. Helicopters are overflying potential targets to monitor any suspicious activity and parking has been banned in

front of likely targets within An estimated 250 doctors, 150 surgeons, 33 hospitals and rescue workers were also put on alert, said the government, which stopped short of

declaring a state of emergen-Police in Santa Fe province, about 500 kilometres north of Buenos Aires, have doubled security at Jewish institutions after intelligence sources warned of a possible

Argentina — bordered by Chile, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Bolivia — has a large concentration of Jews, many of whom fled to Argen-

nisation could call on a hard core of 200 militants but could mobilise up to a thousand for street demonstrations. Unofficial figures say 20,000 Algerians live in Britain.

Bangladeshi soldier killed

(Continued from page 12)

frontier to salvage Guif war weapons, violating U.N. procedures on recovering equipment left over from the con-

redress violations of the de-

The February incursion

The Iraqi government has refused to recognise the demarcated border. The demilitarised zone extends five kilometres into Kuwaiti terri-

been in the southwest, which includes the commercial capital Lagos but not the political Capital, which army rulers had moved to in

> Mr. Abiola's installation as president have paralysed Nigeria with a strike. Now there are threats to

Congress suspended a short-lived general strike to try to negotiate Mr. Abiola's release. Those negotiations led to

He turned the offer The trial resumes in Abuja next Tuesday when the charges against Mr. Abiola are widely expected to be

Tuesday then we can expect are eruption of violence in the southwest," said an

Nigerian oil is pumped in

"These suggestions, in our view, will produce the minimum political conditions for getting this country out of the paralysing siege mentality into which

democracy can only be restored through a constitutional conference, which has been created under Gen. Abacha and is now in session in Abuia.

Arab Gulf stock markets open up to foreign investors to attract investors

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Gulf Arab states are gradually opening their stock markets to foreigners to attract capital after low oil prices created a large defict in their balance of payments and turned some of them into debtors, officials and dealers have said.

The moves could eventually give birth to a giant regional bourse that could perusade local investors to bring part of their huge assets abroad after years of hesitation on the grounds the market is relatively small, they said.

Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman have already given limited access to foreign investors and are planning to widen such participation in

The remaining members of the Gulf Cooperation council (GCC) — Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — are supposed to follow suit in line with the 1983 agreement to create a GCC common economic market.

"Yes, we are now allowing foreigners residing in Bahrain to invest in shares

Qatar exports

surplus stays

DOHA (R) — Qatar's exports fell 17 per cent in 1993

to 11.58 billion riyals (\$3.18

billion), but the tiny Arab

Gulf state still showed a trade

surplus, according to official

figures carried by Qatar

Figures for 1993 showed a trade surplus of 4.7 billion riyals (\$1.29 billion), while 1992's surplus was 6.64 billion (\$1.83 billion), the official agency, quoting the Central supplies the Central su

cial agency, quoting the Cen-tral Statistical Organisation

Imports also fell in 1993 by

CSO figures last year

Nearly 90 per cent of

Qatar's exports in 1993 were

of oil, natural gas or related

roducts, much of it to the

According to CSO data.

Qatar imported 2.15 billion rivals (\$591 million) worth of

goods from the European

Union in 1993, chiefly from Britain, Germany and Italy.

Asian countries accounted

for another 2.13 billion riyals

(\$586 million) worth of im-

ports - just over half the

amount from Japan, a major

customer for Qatar's oil in-

Figures for 1992 imports by

region were not immediately

available for comparison.

6.3 per cent to 6.88 billion

riyals (\$1.89 billion), the fi-

showed that Qatar exported

13.98 billion riyals \$3.84 billion) worth of goods in 1992 and imported 7.34 billion

riyals (\$2.02 billion).

News Agency.

(CSO), said.

gures revealed.

Far East.

fall; trade

and more moves are expected in future," director of the Bahrain stock exchange, Fawzi Bahzad, told AFP by telephone. "Such moves will enable us to break out of the local angle to international markets.

Although it is relatively small, Bahrain's exchange is one of the most sophisticated stock markets in the Middle East and it will make more progress soon when marketmakers join brokers in the

The Gulf state last year decided to allow citizens from fellow GCC countries to trade in its shares and it has just decided to give access to resident foreigners into its investment portfolios.

Dealers said the exchange

also planned to list other Gulf companies which currently trade their shares by telephone through brokers.

"Such a move could be followed by a decision to allow the listing of shares of companies from outside the GCC," said Henry Azzam, chief economist at the

countries meeting here to

learn from the international

experience of debt-

management in order to

overcome their cripping debt

mutually learn from past ex-

perience and take advantage

from countries which have

succeeded in overcoming their

debt crisis and are capable of

managing their debt well," Mr. Scharto said.

Speaking at the opening of

Non-Aligned Movement

(NAM) ministerial meeting

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Finance Minister Manmohan

Singh, architect of India's

ambitious three-year-old eco-

nomic reforms, said Friday

more changes were in store

and predicted a healthy pick-

Speaking to Reuters in an

interview, Mr. Singh dismis-

sed claims the government's

reforms had run out of steam

because of political resistance

"I don't share the percep-

"By and large we have moved at the pace which we said we would move," he

tion that the programme has

slowed down," Mr. Singh

up in growth.

"It is important for us all to

National Commerical Bank, the biggest bank in Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain's bourse, opened in 1989, has 33 banks and companies with a market capitalisation of around \$ 5.6 billion. Despite its relatively low turnover, it is one of the busiest exchanges in the

In a major step towards a joint GCC stock market, the Bahrain exchange has agreed to link up with the Omani bourse and measures were underway for the establishment of a mutual listing of their shares.

Oman's market is also a burgeoning project but rapidly expanding as the country has joined Bahrain in opening up to foreigners. Invesfrom other GCC states can now own up to 49 per cent of the shares of some Omani banks and firms while other foreigners have access to some investment funds.

"Foreign participation will expand in future with the setting up of more investment funds," said Mahmud Al Jar-

tries towards a "comprehen

sive and fundamental" settle-

ment of their debt problems.

indebted countries and the

bost nation were here for

three days of discussions on

current chairman of the

NAM, said Indonesia had

already experienced "the bit-

terness of suffering as a inde-

bted country" and wished to

But he added that it did not

Instead, he predicted

accelerating growth would make it easier for the govern-

ment to implement even

He cited plans to give firms

greater flexibility to fire

workers, scrap quantitative

limits on consumer imports

and overhaul the insurance

He said the government

was aiming for growth in

gross domestic product —

output of goods and services

— to accelerate to between

want to "take over the task of

ing red tape.

ainful chau

said, ticking off far-reaching reforms overhauling the tax system, lowering trade bar-

Mr. Suharto, who is the

Ministers from 31 heavily

JAKARTA (AFP) — Independent Subarto – Indepe

wani, director of the Oman exchange. "The Oryx fund is just a first step for attracting foreign capital.

Oryx was set up this year with a capital of \$52 million as a joint venture between Omani and British private investors. It is the first project of its kind in the sultanate but another is planned with Japanese equity.

Kuwait, which shut the door for foreign investors just after liberation from Iraqi occupation, has just reopened it for other GCC citizens. It has also allowed other resident foreigners to own shares in investment portfolios created by the in-stitutions trading in its ex-

banks and companies with a market capitalisation of around \$10 billion. Before the invasion, there were 54 institutions with a capitalisatison of \$12 billion and the market was the busiest in the Middle East due to wide-

Suharto urges NAM to learn from debt experience

countries."

seeking a settlement of the

debt problems of developing

by the international commun-

ity and major donors for the

way it has managed its huge

foreign debts, estimated at

Mr. Suharto said he had

won approval from the

Group of Seven industrial-

ised nations to actively en-

courage dialogue with de-

veloping and developed na-

tions on important world eco-

nomic issues, including debt.

summit here in September

1992, Mr. Suharto set up a

out one million Indians will

offer themselves for arrest

from Tuesday in a massive

nationwide campaign by

communists against the gov-

ernment's free-market

Organisers of the protest

predicted that another two

million communists and their

supporters will simultaneous-

ly paralyse federal govern-ment offices in the Marxist-

ruled eastern state of West

Bengal during the three

old government of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha

weeks of protests.

More economic changes are in store for Indians

riers, opening up the finan-from 3.8 per cent last year. cial sector and slashing stiffer. Protesting the reforms, ab-

At the movement's last

around \$90 billion.

Indonesia has been praised

The Kuwaiti bourse has 47

"Other GCC

ban foreign investment in shares but there are some banks and companies which allow GCC citizens to own shares," said Zuhair Kaswani, a UAE stockbroker. "Such a trend will likely expand as GCC countries press ahead with plans for a common market.'

Mr. Azzam said GCC states, facing a balance of payment deficit of \$25-\$30 billion a year until 2000. could benefit from giant world investment funds seeking new markets if they opened up to international

Such funds in Japan, the

United States and Europe have a capital of more than \$20,000 billion, of which \$40 billion were invested in shares last year," he said. "In case they decided to boost investment to one per cent of their capital, this means a flow of an additional \$200 billion. Gulf states should prepare themselves to benefit from such a flow."

commission of experts to re-

port on the international debt

The commission, whose re-

inisterial meeting, called

of about 70 per cent — for

heavily-indebted developing

countries which it said were

necessary if they were to sur-

It said the ability of the

heavily-indebted countries to

resume economic growth

through domestic saying, in-

vestment and new foreign

capital inflow was being im-

"We want the government

to change the negative course

of its economic reforms,"

said Muqumuddin Farooqi,

deputy leader of the Com-munist Party of India (CPI),

one of the four left-wing par-

es organising the protests.
"We are not against mod-

ernisation and foreign invest-ment," he added. "But it

should not be on terms dic-

The staggered campaign

will prepare the ground for a

one-day national strike called

by communist unions for Sept. 29 against the fiscal policies, said Prakash Karat,

another communist leader.

Messrs. Farooqi and Karat

said some one million volun-

teers, including members of

communist parties and front

organisations, would offer

tated by multinationals."

peded by existing debt.

vive economically.

port is to be discussed in the

for massive debt reductions

Multinationals flock Economic to invest in China

BELIING (AFP) — More than 50 of the world's 500 biggest multinationals are now operating in China, in-dicating the rising quality of foreign-funded ventures, an official was quoted Saturday as saying.

The multinationals have invested a total of more than \$4 billion in 26 fields, the China Daily quoted a State Administration of Industry and Commerce official as saying. It said U.S., European and Japanese giants were being joined by the biggest com-

panies of emerging industrial powers like South Korea and Singapore as the profile of China ventures shifted from the small export-processing ventures — dominant in the 1980s - to high-tech, bigmoney projects.

The average investment by foreign firms in China has jumped from below \$900,000 before 1991 to about \$1.35 million at the end of last year, the report said, adding that half of all the money directed at the country since early 1993 had come from "large international companies.' Chinese authorities have

Of the 58 countries judged

as were heavily-indebted in

1992, accounting for debts totalling \$248 billion, 32 were

under-developed countries.

Secretary General Boutros

Boutros Ghali, the African Development Bank and the

Asian Development Bank were also attending the talks.

themselves for arrest by

violating laws and refusing-

jail until the three weeks are

over," said Mr. Farooqi, adding the campaign would

not to bury wholesale 40

years of quasi-socialists eco-nomic policies.

presently being dictated by others," Mr. Farooqi said.

"After all India is a very big

market and we are in a posi-

tion to dictate to others. But

The government has repe-

atedly denied opposition charges that its economic

policies have been framed by

international agencies like

the World Bank and the In-

ternational Monetary Fund.

this is not happening.

"Our economic policies are

We shall not come out of

tral America.

recently been at pains to stress that a slowdown in pledged foreign investment growth this year does not signal a waning interest in the world's biggest market, but is rather a healthy trend reflecting the improving structure of

The number of contracts approved from January to June fell 42 per cent, while the value of promised foreign investment dropped 25.3 per cent over the same period last year, official say, but high-light that the average value of inputs hit \$1.7 million in the first six months of the year.

The China Daily quoted university economics profes-sor Chu Xiangyin as expressing optimism that much of the money pledged by multi-nationals would materialise, saying that the signing of an agreement by such com-panies reflected a firm commitment to proceed with the

The declining ratio of pledged to realised investment has become a serious problem in China in recent years, falling in 1993 to about 100:18 from 100:63 in 1987.

indicators signal recovery in Lebanon

BEIRUT (AFP) — Agricultural and industrial exports have risen by 13.2 per cent in Lebanon compared to the first quarter of 1994, the Banque Audi said in a report

here Saturday. Total revenue now stands at \$172 million since the beginning of the year, according to the bank, the only one in Lebanon to produce an economic report.

Agriculture brought in \$35 million and industry \$73 million in the second quarter of

The construction industry made strong progress, expanding by 31.7 per cent since the first quarter. The start of work by the Soldiere company to recon-struct Beirur's war-battered city centre and large public reconstruction projects have boosted the construction in-

dustry, the report said.

Public and private investment from January to March 🤏 stood at \$1.5 billion.

Beirut's port and airport also registered an increase in activity from April to June.

The number of ships and containers handled at the port rose by four and six per cent respectively, while the number of planes increased by more than 15 per cent and visitor figures rose by 23.8 per cent to 580,853.

The internal public debt increased by 11.3 per cent, from 7,983 billion Lebanese lires to 8,832 billion at the end of June. One dollar is worth 1,674 liras.

Since the beginning of the year, the actual debt has increased by more than 17 per

Lebanon's trade balance showed a deficit of \$1.31 billion in the second quarter, bringing the overall deficit since the beginning of 1994 to \$2.53 billion. An economist at Audi

bank has forecast that the Lebanese economy would grow by between eight and 10 per cent in 1994, up from seven per cent last year. "Certainly GDP registered

a real growth for the first six months 1994 (compared to) the first six months of 1993," conomist Freddie Baz adviser to Bank Audi, told Reuters.

"GELO

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te tro erga.

to privatise

dent Anatoly Kolotilin, told Reuters the restructuring would take place in line with government instructions, but he could not say when or how shares would be distri-

year, but it is difficult to predict because a lot of further approvals are needed," he

Property Committee, in charge of Russian privatisation, were not available for would be able to take states in the company.

Russia biggest oil exporter

MOSCOW (R) - The Russian government plans to privatise leading crude oil ex-porter Naffa-Moskva, transforming it into a more flexi-ble and competitive organisation, a senior company official said Friday.

Vladimir Yefremov, an aide to Nafta-Moskva Presi-

Officials from the State

Twenty-seven of the countries invited to this year's ministerial meeting were African states, three were Asian while one of the two observer states is from Cen-Representatives of U.N.

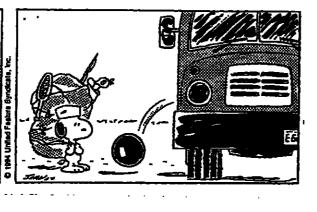
"Maybe it will be next

*** DAJANI'S**

Peanuts







— to accelerate to between six and seven per cent over the next two to three years. He said he expected the ecolumn to accelerate to between the biggest against the sweeping economic liberalisation launched by the three-year-

Andy Capp

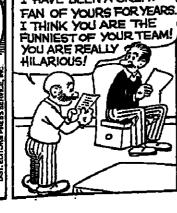






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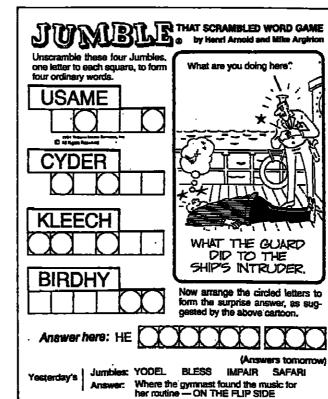








That star just twinkled at that other star-they're flirting!"



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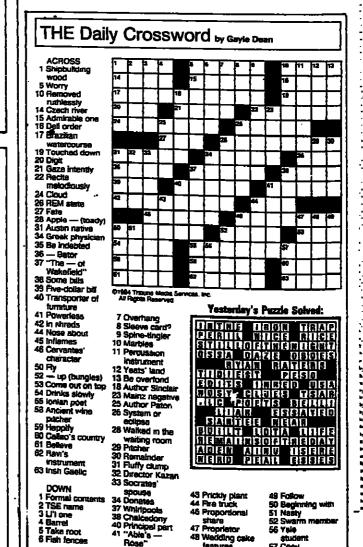
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Hue now stand on since the be the only one in produce an eco. e brought in \$35 industry \$73 mil

scond quarter of ruction industry 31.7 per cent st quarter. of work by the rpany to reconand large public n projects have construction ineport said. private invest.

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| Kawaiti Dinar | 2.3100 | 2.3400 | | |
| Quturi Riyal | 0.1894 | 0.1907 | | |
| Egyptian Pound | 0_2050 | 0.2250 | | |
| Omani Riyal | 1.7830 | 1.3000 | | |
| UAE Dirkam | 0.1884 | 0.1893 | | |
| Greek Drachma* | 0.2685 | 0.3165 | | |
| Cypriot Pound | 1.3800 | 1.5000. | | |

AFM prices gain as upward trend holds

AMMAN — Share prices at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) improved and turnover also went up by nearly one-fourth during last week following the dramatic breakthroughs in the Jordanian-Israeli peace negotiations and American moves to alleviate the Kingdom's foreign debt burden, brokers said Satur-

The weekly AFM report, released two days late because of the national holiday on Thursday, said the general share price index closed at 153.5 points, registering an increase of 1.06 points or 1.01 per cent from last week's close of 151.9 points.

According to brokers, the actual rise in prices was slightly higher but not re-

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

flected in the official AFM index, which only includes 60 major companies of the 110 listed in the market.

The AFM report said 4.5 million shares worth JD 11.4 million changed hands under 6,726 contracts during the week, up 21.3 per cent from last week's JD 9.4 million. The industrial sector

accounted for JD 6.1 million, or 53.3 per cent of the turnover, followed by commercial banks and financial institutions with ID 2.9 million, or 25.3 per cent, the services sector with JD 2.4 million, or 21 per cent, and insurance stock with JD 400,000.

The separate sector indices showed that services sector shares gained 3.8 points or 2.4 per cent, commercial bank shares 1.6 points or 1.1 per cent, and industrial

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shares 1.4 points or 0.9 per cent. The insurance share price index showed a decline of 0.2 points, or 0.1 per cent.

Brokers attributed the rise in the services sector shares to expectations of booming tourism following the open-ing of a crossing point be-tween Aqaba and Eilat for tourists and indications that Israeli tourists might be allowed to enter Jordan be-

fore the end of the year. The opening of direct telephone lines with Israel and signs of accords in linking the power grids of the two countries as well as civil aviation agreements amid intensified negotiations on border and water were heartily weicomed by the investor com-

nunity, brokers said. "Hotels, tour companies and related service companies are expecting expan-sion, and hence the focus of

tor," said a broker, who cannot be identified by name under standing AFM guide-

In general, brokers said high spirits and enthusiasm were visible among investors after a stagnant five-month period during which they saw many stocks losing up to 40 per cent of their value.

The progress in the Jordanian-Israeli track of negotiations is coupled with an American move to write off \$755 million of Jordan's debts to the U.S., starting with \$220 million this year. The U.S. Congress has endorsed the necessary legisla-

It is also expected that other Paris Club creditors, who hold up more than \$3 billion in Jordan's debts, will offer debt relief to the Kingdom in various forms as part of an international commitment to ensure that peace in the region is maintained and safeguarded.

"Investors are indeed interested in the economic gains for Jordanian companies from activities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but they are now assured that there would be economic benefits for Jordan independent of developments in any other track of the peace process," said a banking executive.

AFM stocks have recovered mostly from a beating they took since March against the backdrop of doubts of real economic benefits of peace and gains for local firms from the economic development of the West Bank and Gaz.; Strin.

Further depressing the market shares was scepticism

agreement signed between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The agreement remains unratified by the PLO. But the fact that AFM shares were on a recovery course despite doubts over the accord with the PLO was seen by many as a sign of investors' confidence in the course of the Jordanian economy.

"A good number of companies which lost up to 20 and 25 per cent of their stock values have steadily been recouping losses in the past three or four weeks," said the executive. "For many, it is a strong indication that the trend in the market is being determined on local economic development rather than the economy of the Palesti-

Arab Gulf countries boost fertiliser output

ABU DHABI (AFP) Arab Gulf states have stepped up their fertilizer production sharply in recent years to meet growing demand from their Asian clients, a study has said.

Production of fertilizers by the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states jumped from almost 1.17 tonnes in 1970 to 7.8 million tonnes in 1993, said the study by the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultancy (GOIC).

The 1993 figure included 3.9 million tonnes of ammonia and an equal amount of urea, said the study.

Production of sulphuric acid also surged by 75 per cent to 261,000 tonnes in 1993 from 149,000 tonnes in 1970, it said. Only a small part of ferti-lizer output is used locally

where agricultural areas are limited because of the desert character of GCC states. Most of the exported products go to China and other

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Asian countries. The fertilizer industry is part of plans by GCC countries to diversify their economy and tap their huge natural gas reserves, esti-mated by the Doha-based GOIC at 19.67 trillion cubic metres, nearly 14.2 per cent of the total world gas rescrves.

About 5.4 billion cubic metres of gas is used by the GCC in the fertilizer industry while the rest is used to produce petrochemicals or exported to Japan and other

GCC states have embarked on major projects to expand oil production and other energy sectors to face growing world demand.

Apart from their large gas resources, GCC states -Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and the UAE - control more than 40 per cent of the total world crude oil reserves of nearly one trillion barrels.

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ATT, S. Arabia sign record \$4b phone deal

and Saudi Arabia's telecommirincations ministry Saturday signed a \$4 billion contract for a project to expand the kingdom's telephone network by adding 1.5 million lines, a statement said.

ATT Chairman Robert Allen and Alawi Darwich Kayyal, Saudi Arabia's minister of posts, telegraphs and telephone, signed the deal in the Saudi capital of Riyadh.

"It is the largest contract in telecommunications history outside the United States, ATT said in the statement. A letter of intent for the deal, including component for switching, transmission, network management, fiber optics, wireless, civil works and training projects, was

awarded in May. ATT will be expected to

value of the contract in Saudi

Arabia. ATT Saturday also signed an agreement with a Saudi company, Abdullah Said Bakshan Co., to equip and install a mobile telephone

system, the statement said. The agreement with the Saudi partner will be for a turnkey project based on the international global system for mobile (GSM) telecommunications system to provide wirdess services to 200.000 local subscribers.

As part of its offset commitment ATT was holding talks with three Saudi companies to set up possible partnerships in electronics, software-related services, and fibre optic apparatus, the statement said. We envision much more

than the installation of a kingdom-wide network. This project and related objectives offer substantial economic growth potential to this burgeoning region..." Mr. Allen said in the statement. Chase Manhattan Bank

provided a \$197.55 million performance bond for the contract, bankers said last May. It was the first of who may be several financial arrangements for the deal.

Major Canadian insurance group folds

OTTAWA (AFP) - One of Canada's major insurance companies, Confederation Life, has been closed down by government regulators, the latest victim of the heady days of the 1980s when financial institutions made massive loans, especially in real estate.

But officials said most of the company's policyholders
— mainly in Canada, Britain
and the United States — will be protected by a government-backed industry rescue, although the degree of protection for British and U.S. policyholders was not immediately known.

The industry plan will protect Canadian life insurance policyholders for up to 200,000 dollars (about \$145,000).

But analysts said the col-lapse of Confederation Life could put new pressures on other Canadian life insurance companies who contribute to an industry-wide fund cre-ated to protect policyholders.

The industry organisation responsible for bailing out policyholders, CompCorp, may have to increase its assessments on remaining life insurance companies and that would have a negative flow on operating margins for those companies, said several analysts Friday.

Of Confederation Life's 230,000 individual policyholders, about 140,000 are

Government insurance programmes will also protect deposit holders with Confederation Trust, the savings bank subsidiary of Confederation Life, for up to 60,000 dellars (about \$43,000) per

The folding of the Confederation Life group was announced later Thursday night by Doug Peters, Canada's Secretary of Secretary da's Secretary of State for financial institutions.





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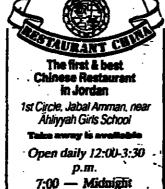
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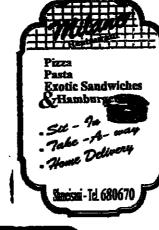
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Dream Team II beat Russia 111-94 at World Basketball Championships

TORONTO (AP) — Shaquille O'Neal showed Russia some superpower moves Friday night to end any hope of a huge upset at the world championship of basketball.

O'Neal scored 11 of his 21 points in a three-minute span of the second half to break open a close game, and Dream Team II went on to a 111-94 victory in its final tuneup before the medal round was due to start late

In the semifinals, Dream Team II faces Greece, an 81-55 loser to Croatia on Friday, Greece coach Makis Dedrinos rested his best players in the second haif and said after the game that he was saving them for the bronze

medal game against Saturday's Russia-Croatia loser.
The United States, in its first meeting with the former Soviet Union since a 1988 Olympic defeat, was loaded with confidence after consecutive victories of more than 50 points against Australia and Puerto Rico. But the Americans, averaging 123 points on 62 per cent shooting in their first five games, led just 52-44 at halftime. just 52-44 at halftime,

ng 22 of 42 shots. The start of the second half didn't see the situation improve as the Russian twice closed within five points, the last time at 56-51 with 17

Then O'Neal entered the game, and the Russians had

The 2.16-metre (7-foot-1), 136-kilogrammes (300pound) centre's 11 points helped extend the U.S. lead to 70-57, and when Joe Dumars and Reggie Miller hit 3-pointers on consecutive possessions, the advantage was 76-57 with 12:55 remain-

ng.
Miller, who hit 13 of 17 3-pointers in the previous two games, missed six of his first seven 3-pointers. After taking a team-leading 20.2 scoring average into the game, Miller finished with 11

Dumars, who did not play in the previous game, scored 20 points for the United States, and Derrick Coleman had 15. Yevgeni Kissourin

basketball

in Canada

into a getaway van, joining star player Richard Matienzo

who had pulled a similar escape the day before, the

would be my last chance to get out of (Cuba)," Du-

quesne, 24, was quoted as

telling the Star through an

Duquesne said he was able

to give his guards the slip

because they were hypno-tised watching the U.S. team

play Russia on television.

"I absolutely knew it

Toronto Star reported.

of the team."

Second

Cuban

player

defects

scored 18 points, Dmitri Domani 17 and Sergei Bazarevich 14 for Russia.

It looked like another easy victory when Kevin Johnson's layup gave the Americans a 17-7 lead. But nine points by Kissourin and five by Bazarevich keyed a 23-11 run that put Russia in front 30-28 with 9:35 left in the first

The U.S. team then scored the next 10 points, including two 3-pointers by Mark Price, to take the lead for

But the Russians didn't fold, matching the smallest halftime deficit of eight points managed by Spain in Dream Team It's first game. The original Dream Team led by at least 14 at halftime of every game at the 1992 Olvmpic and never won by less

Three of Dream Team II's six victories have been by lessthan 24 points.

Croatia 81, Greece 55

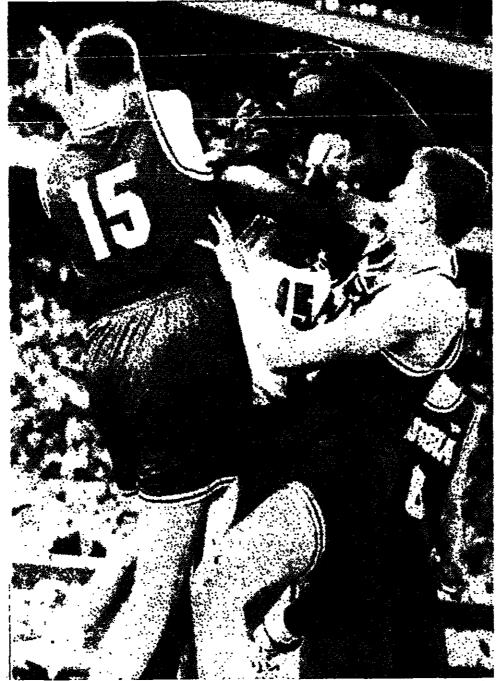
Meanwhile, Dino Radja dominated inside with 27 points and 10 rebounds and Croatia closed the game with a 21-6 run for an 81-55 victory over Greece.

Both teams had secured semifinal berths with victories in their first two quarter — final games, but Croatia now avoids meeting the Un-ited States until Sunday's

gold medal game.
Radja, who plays for the boston Celtics, took over at the start of the second half, scoring seven points in an 11-2 run that gave Croatia a 49-31 lead with 15:30 to play. Greece, which is assured of

its best finish ever in a world championship, closed within 11 points twice, the last time at 60-49 with 8:21 to play. That's when Croatia began its closing run, holding Greece to one field goal and two free through the control of throws, the latter coming with six seconds to play for the final margin.

Toni Kukoc of the Chicago Bulls, who had a subdued 14 points, started the final burst with a 3-pointer and Radja added seven points before leaving the game with 3:16 to



Larry Johnson of the U.S. fights for a rebound with Vitali Nossov and Sergei Panov of Russia

during their Friday game at the World Basket-ball Championships (AFP photo)

Stojan Vrankovic, who played for the Celtics, added 12 points and 12 rebounds for

Fanis Christodoulo led Greece with 12 points. S. Korea 75, Angola 71

Jae Hur scored 27 points to lead South Korea to a 75-71: victory over Angola in con-

solation semifinals of the

Hur's two free throws with 52 seconds to play were the final points of the game. Angola (1-6) had scored four points within 15 seconds to get within 73-71 with 1:10 left, but couldn't score on its last two possessions. Kyung-Eun Moon added

Herlander Coimbra made seven 3-pointers and scored 24 points for Angola, and Anibal Moreira added 19. South Korea was to play Egypt for 13th place late Saturday, while Angola was to meet Cuba for 15th place.

17 points for South Korea

(2-5), while Hee-Chui Chun

Judge bars reporters from seeing

Hamalainenout of decathlon. at European Championships

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) — Eduard Hamalainen of Belams, the heavy favourite in the decathlon at the European Championships, fell in the first event of the second half Saturday and dropped out of the competition.

Hamalainen, second to American Dan O'Brien at the World Championships last year, had led after the first five events Friday with

4,512 points.
In the 110-metre hurdles opening up the second day, Hamalainen stumbled while heading to the first hurdle and fell when he hit the first

He did not finish the event and decided to drop out of the competition. He did not start the discus. The pole vault, javelin and the 1,500 metres are the other events of the second day.

Hamalainen had the best

score of the year with 8,735 points at Gotzis, Austria, the last weekend of May. O'Brien's best this year was 8,715 at the Goodwill Games in St. Petersburg, Russia. Hamalainen and O'Brien

will meet next month at the Decastar meet in Talence, France, where O'Brien set the world record in 1992 of 8,891 points.

Saturday's first final Valery Spitsyn of Russia won she 50-kilometre walk in 3 hours, 41 minutes, 7 seconds. Frenchman Thierry Toulain was second, almost three minutes behind with Italian Giovanni Perricelli third.

In Friday's events, Heike Drechsler returned to the stadinm where she won her first world championship 11 years

Since then she has won gold medals in the Olympics, world and European championship long jumps, won bronze medals in Olympic sprints and relays, married and started a family.

"There have been been a lot of highlights in my career. think I've done well," Drechsler said after winning her third consecutive European title.

The former East German cantured her event with a leap of 7.14 metres (23 feet, 5 ¼ inches) bettering Inessa Kravets of Ukraine. Kravets is another example of how

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The judge in the O.J. Simp-

son case refused Priday to let

would hurt Simpson's

The 47-year-old former

chances for a fair trial.

times have changed. Most of the former Soviet republics are competing individually and Ukraine has won seven medals, including two gold. Russia has 16, including

seven gold. In other events Friday, Britain gained two victories in hurdles by Sally Gunnell and Colin Jackson. Gunnell completed a uni-

que series. She now has the European, Commonwealth, world and Olympic titles along with the world record of 52.74 seconds in the 400metre hurdles. She took the European title in 53.33.

"I've always wanted to win the full set," Gunnell said. "I hope to be able to look back and enjoy that." Jackson won the 110-metre

hurdles with a time of 13.08 seconds, well of his world record of 12.91, although he went 13.04 in the semifinals for a championship record. Next are the Commonwealth Games in Victoria,

Canada. "It has been a difficult year for the British athletes, what with the Commonwealths and I obviously have to look for the double," Jackson His victory was made easier when Mark McKoy withdrew in the semifinals with a groin pull. McKoy won the 110 hurdles at the Olympics competing for Canada and gained Austrian

citizenship recently. In the women's javelin Trine Hattestad became Norway's third winner as she captured the women's javelin with a toss of 68.00 metres (223 feet, 1 inch).

Italians Alessandro Lam-bruschini and Angelo Carosi went 1-2 in the 3,000 steeplechase with Lambruschin winning in 8 minutes, 22.40 seconds.

Italy could have taken the

top three spots. Lambruschini and defending champion Francesco Panetta bumped on the second lap and both went down briefly. Lambruschini recovered quicker while Panetta went on to finish

eighth. gold to Panetta, who pulled me up when I fell," Lambruschini said. "For 400 metres he was telling me to go, go, go and then again he was the one to change the rhythm of

74.5.



Briton Colin Jackson runs the 110m hurdles heat in the European Track and Field Championships in Helsink Friday (AFP photo)

Cabinet official bids to save Italian Grand Prix ROME (R) — Italian cabinet

under-secretary Gianni Letta flew to France Saturday to appeal against the International Motoring Federation's (FIA) decision to cancel the Italian Grand Prix. Government officials said

Letta, a senior cabinet member, would meet FIA President Max Mosley in a bid to have the Monza race restored after FIA canceled it Friday on safety grounds. Letta travelled first to

Milan to join up with Paolo Arrigoni, chairman of the Lombardy regional council which has been fighting for the race to be re-instated, as the pair prepared to make a joint plea to FIA. There was some confusion

about where and when the meeting with FIA would take place, with Letta's office saying they were travelling to Paris, but Lombardy council spokesman Guido Bollini saying Arrigoni was going to the Riviera city of Cannes.

already handed in his resigna-

The cancellation came as a shock for Italian racing fans, causing a wave of protest Saturday, and Arrigoni has threatened to resign if a solution cannot be found to allow the race to go ahead as originally planned Sept. 11. The mayor of Monza has

tion in protest at the inability to solve the sporting crisis. FIA decided to remove the race from the Formula One Calendar Friday because of doubts over whether Italian

authorities would authorise

safety work. Safety has become a priority in Formula One after Ayrton Senna of Brazil and Austrian Roland Ratzenberger died earlier this year at the San Marino Grand Prix at the

Italian Circuit of Imola. Plans to make the Monza track safer by widening runoff areas at the dangerous Lesmo curves involve the felling of around 100 centuries-old trees in the Royal Park and the superintendent of cultural heritage for the Milan area has re-

fused permission.

But Letta, who has already written to FIA, said Friday the race could still be saved by building in "one or more"

chicanes to reduce speed.

Organisers have blamed the government for failing to ensure the grand prix — the highlight of the season for Italian F1 fans — would take

The fate of the race was one of the items discussed by Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi and Umberto Bossi, leader of the Federalist Northern League, a key coalition partner in a meeting in the early hours of Satur-

Berlusconi's other big partner, the neo-fascist-led National Alliance, called on FIA to find a solution that would allow the race to be staged.

European football star is charged in the brutal knife murders of his champions ex-wife and a friend outside Ms. Simpson's Brentwood condominium late the night call off of June 12. Trial is set for Sept. 19. Superior court judge Lance pay strike

COPENHAGEN (R) -European champions Denmark have called off a pay strike which threatened next week's friendly against Fin-land and agreed to negotiate a new pay deal.

The team has agreed to play in Wednesday's friendly after both parties reached agreement in principle on a new pay structure," Danish Football Association information officer Lars Berendt said. The Danish soccer team

have been negotiating a new pay deal for 1994-96 with the ssociation for about three The players threatened to

boycott upcoming matches after the association refused last week to accept team demands for a profit-sharing bonus scheme on top of high-

A spokesman for the players said the new deal would be finally negotiated over the

exhibits as that contents is described in the record of the preliminary hearing," Ito reporters see grisly photos of the murder victims, saying "graphic, sensationalistic" descriptions of the pictures

victims' photos in Simpson case

the offence last month. Ito did agree to release one

Ito, in a written ruling, said he was keeping sealed one picture of Nicole Brown Simpson and two photos of Ronald Goldman lying in pools of blood. The judge said reporters describing the gruesome photos "would paint mental

images in the minds of poten-tial jurors that would pre-judice the right to a fair trial to both parties."

Ito did allow reporters to

review photographs of sever-al exhibits used during the preliminary hearing, includ-ing gloves, a kait cap and a shoeprint. The judge was responding to a request from the news media to view crime scene

photographs shown to wit-

nesses during Simpson's pre-

liminary hearing. News organisations requested that reporters be allowed to see — but not publish or broadcast - the photos to help report more accurately testimony in the bearing.

"There is no mystery as to the content of these three

EMBASSY OF INDIA AMMAN INDEPENDENCE DAY OF INDIA

To mark the 47th anniversary of Independence Day of India, a flag-hoisting ceremony will be held on Monday, Aug. 15, 1994, at 10 a.m. at the premises of the embassy of India, 1st Circle. Jabal Amman. All Indians with their families are cordially invited to attend the function.

Ito also refused to release transcripts of secret meetings dealing with a mysterious yellow envelope turned over by

transcript of a July 8 closeddoor meeting. In the transcript, defence attorney Robert Shapiro asserts that phone records show that Nicole's mother telephoned her daughter at 10:17 p.m. Prosecutors have suggested the killing started at about 10:15 when a neighbour heard Ms. Simpson's dog

It was unclear whether Shapiro was accurately reporting the information in the phone records. Prosecutors did not confirm that phone records show a 10:17 call.

The timing of the phone call is crucial because it could help narrow the time of death, which the coroner places between 9 p.m. and midnight. The bodies were found at 12:10 a.m. June 13. A coroner's report initially indicated that the phone call was around 11 p.m. Testi-mony at Simpson's preliminary hearing indicated he was preparing to board a limousine to the airport.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARE & TANNAH HERSCH Tribure Media Services, Inc.

SCORE ONE FOR THE ECDYSIASTS

NORTH ♣ A J 8 4 ♥ A 4 • 10 % 0 10 2 ♦ K 8 6 3 2 WEST EAST \$ 5 3 \$ 10 9 2 ♥ K Q 8 7 3 2 ♥ J 10 9 6 ♥ K 7 6 \$ J 9 5 3 • Q J \$ 9 4 SOUTH **4KQ76** ♥ 5 ♦ A Q 8 4 **4** A 10 7 5

♦ A 10 7 5
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4 ♡ Pass
4 ♡ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of
The common form of a strip and endplay requires declarer to draw all the enamy trumps and clear one or two suits. On rare occasions, however you can achieve the same result. er, you can achieve the same result while some cards are still in the enemy hands.

North's negative double guaran-teed four spades. After a cue-bid-

ding sequence, North's four no trump was Roman Key-card Black-wood, in which the king of trumps counts as an see. When South's response confirmed three key cards, North bid the small slam.

West led the king of hearts and looking at all four hands, 12 tricks are easy to come by—four trumps, five clubs, thanks to the even division to the system. sion, two red aces and a heart ruff in the closed hand. Unfortunately, de-

clarar was not playing with glass cards.

After winning the acr of hearts, South cashed two high trumps, end-ing in dummy. A heart was ruffed and declarer returned to dummy with a chib to the high fraching the with a club to the king, fetching the

with a cut to the king, tetrumy use jack from West.

Applying the Principle of Restricted Choice, declarer continued with a club to the ten, losing to the queen. It might seem the contract was now lost, but West was trapped in an endplay.

Down to nothing but red cards

Down to nothing but red cards, West could not afford to lead a heart—declarer would ruff that in hand while discarding the losing diamond from the table. Instead, West led a diamond in the hope that Kast held the queen, but that was into the jawa of death. Six clubs bid and made.

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TORONTO (R) — A day after Cuba's best player at the World Basketball Cham-

pionships fled the team to Richard Matienzo seek refugee status in Cana-da, his backup as centre fol-Matienzo, 25, who had been widely considered the lowed suit in a dramatic defection, a local paper re-brted Saturday. key to Cuba's success in the competition, called Du-Augusto Duquesne gave team security guards the slip quesne in his hotel room from the van through a cellu-lar phone and told him to Friday night and walked out attempt his escape, the Star of his downtown hotel and

reported. Cuban team officials told the remaining players after Matienzo's defection Thursday that his absence would make no difference to the team's fortunes and that he faced hardtimes in Canada, Duquesne was quoted as

saying.

Team and tournament offi-"For certain reasons, I cials were not immediately knew I would be dropped out

available for comment. Cuba failed to qualify for the world event's quarterfinal, losing to Germany Thursday night after Matienzo failed to show up for the

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kitchen and bathroom. Fully furnished. Please call 819367 - Hashem

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UST 14, 1994

ry was made Mark McKo the semifinal util. McKoy won les at the Olym ng for Canada d Austria cently. omen's Javelin, ad became Nor. winner as she

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Rasheed need dining room,

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L.A. Virginia Slims Calif. (AP) — Wimbledon champion Conchita Martinez of Spain was upset by no. 10. Amy Frazier 6-4, 7-6 (7-1) rinday in the quarterfinals of the Virginia Slims of Los Angeles.
Frazier's victory meant the top three seeds were knocked

out of the \$400,000 tournament. Second-seeded Martina Navratilova lost Thursday to no. 13 Ann Grossman 4-6, 7-5, 6-4, and no. 3 Lindsay Davenport withdrew with a strained muscle in her left

No. 8 Sabien Appelmans of Belgium continued the streak of upsets by outlasting no. 4 Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, and no. 5 Zina Garrison-Jackson lost to fewllow American Grossman 3-6, 7-6, (7-5), 6-2. Seventh-seeded Julie Halard of France eliminated Patricia Hy of Canada 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 in another quarterimal.

Frazier led 4-3 on her serve when Martinez broke to tie. the first set. But Frazier regained the break on an errant. forehand by Martinez and then served out the first set. In the second set, Frazier opened a 3-0 lead before Martinez won four straight

games. Frazier, of Rochester



Conchita Martinez

Martinez is out of

Hills, Mich., got into the tiebreaker and won the first five points, lost her serve and then closed out the 1 hour, 33-minute match on a dublefault by Martinez.

"I'm happy because I played well," Frazier said. "In the tiebreker, she made soem unforced errors and I didn't expect that. I tried to concentrate on each points and not worry about the score." Martinez said she was tired

from playign her second tournament in as many weeks, and high heat complicated playing conditions.

"She was pushing me. I was all the time on defence," Martinez said. "I got so far MASON, Ohio (AP) — Ste-fan Edberg defeated a hob-bled Amos Mansdorf Friday night to move into the semi-

finals of the \$1.72 million ATP championship. Mansdorf had won the first set 7-5 against a ragged Edberg, the no. 2 seed.

"He was in charge of the match from the middle of the first set," Edberg said. But about that time, Mansdorf pulled a muscle in his right calf while lunging to hit backhand.

"After that, I played really well and didn't want to give up," Mansdorf said.

He had the calf wrapped. but aggravated the injury later in the set. Still, he played on, winning points with slashing returns that prevented Edberg from hitting to his crippled backhand. "I noticed he was strug-gling, but I couldn't move

court," Edberg said. "In a way, it helped. I was going for big shots," said Mansdorf, who has never beaten Edberg in 10 matches. "Maybe that's the way I al-

him around because I

couldn't keep the ball on the

ways should play him." Each player held serve through the first eight games of the second set. But Manscorf, limping noticeably, was broken in the 11th game and Edberg served out the next game in four points to win 6-4.

Mansdorf dejectedly told the umpire he could not con-

"It's tough enough to beat Stefan when you're healthy," he said.

Edberg's semifinal oppo-nent will be third-seeded Michael Stich of Germany, who beat Alex O'Brien, 6-2,

Defending champion Michael Chang advanced the same way he did last year, beating Jason Stoltenberg 6-1, 3-6, 7-5. He will meet the resurgent David Wheaton, who eliminated seventhseeded Jim Courier, 7-6 (7-3) 2-6, 6-3.

"He was a different Jason Stoltenberg that last year," Chang said of Stoltenberg, an Australian who has been the hottest player on the men's

"He's been playing well" this summer. If he keeps it up, he's going to be a dangerous player." Chang said. But again this year, Stoltenberg could not overcome

Chang's dogged determina-"He is the sort of player you've got to beat. He is not going to beat himself," Stol-

tenberg said. "He is going to run a lot of balls down, and he's not going to make a lot Wheaton, whose career was interrupted by a series of

injuries, continued his supercharged comeback. After

ousting top-seeded Sergi Bruguera of Spain Thursday

Edberg, Chang advance to Ohio semis

night, he wore down Courier. "He's a high-risk player," Courier said. "When he's on a roll, those risks pay off for

Wheaton was sidelined 412 months last year with a hip problem and eight weeks this year with a shoulder injury. Now healthy, he's won 15 of

his past 17 matches.
"The injuries helped me get a new perspective on tennis," Wheaton said. "I'm just trying to do more to develop the talent that was given to

"Earlier in my career, I used to worry about where I was ranked, what tournaments I wanted to win and things like that.

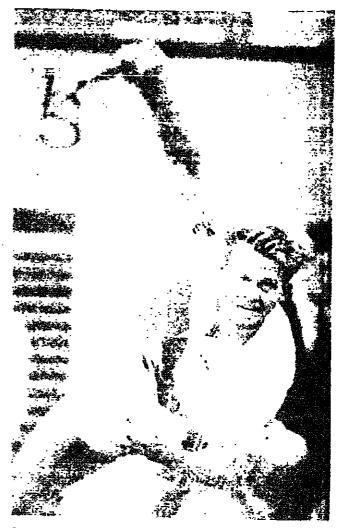
"It was wrong for me to think in those terms. Now, when things go well, I don't want to revert to the way I was thinking in the past."

Because he missed so many

tournaments, Wheaton's ranking of 107 at entry time for the ATP championship kept him out of the main draw and he had to progress through a local qualifier to make the field.

Since then, he's moved up

to 65th, and should move into the top 40 after this week. "Sixty-five is reflective of his last 52 weeks, but he has been playing better than that," Courier said.



Stephan Edberg

Singapore soccer star, official face graft counts

SINGAPORE (R) — A Czech soccer player for Singapore and a referee were charged Saturday with corruption after investigations into a match-fixing scandal. Michal Vana, a 31-year-old

midfielder, was charged with six counts of corruption and 43-year-old referee Rajamanickam Thirujnanasammanthan with two counts, the Singapore Broadcasting Corp. said.
The Straits Times newspaper said the two were

firmed the media reports. He also allegedly received Singapore dollar 1,000 (\$665)

arrested Friday and several

nother arrests may follow.



Amouncement from the Justice Ministry

The Amman Court of Justice announces that it will hold an auction at 12 noon Monday August 15, 1994 for the sale of a bedroom consisting of a wardrobe (six doors), dressing board, two beds with head panels (white). Those wishing to buy should come to the site for sale at North Marka behind Hamzeh Mosque, Suleiman Farouqi Street, alley number 3, house number 44. Potential buyers should carry a guarantee document for at least 15 per cent of the buying price. Stamps and auction fee will be borne by the buyer. The court has ruled in favour of Hamzeh Ahmad Khalil Al Mazytah against Hussein Moham-

mad Hussein. Signed by court com-missioner

World Cup stars are few in Brazilian championship

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Don't look for World Cup heores when Brazil's firstdivision championship gets under way this weekend. Most have left for "greener" pastures.

The Brazilian tournament is the poor cousin of the wealthy European leagues. That's where Romario, Bebeto and nine other World Cup champions will parade their talents this year.

Japan, a candidate to host the World Cup in 2002, has snatched up defenders Ronaldao and Leonardo. Of Brazil's starting 11 in the Cup, only three play intheir native country.

Few Brazilian clubs compete with their overseas rivals. In a country where the minimum wage is \$65 a month, the lure of financial independence usually is irre-

The most recent to embark was 17-year-old phenomenon Ronaldo, the Netherlands' PSV Eindhoven bought the high-scoring forward from the Crużeiro for \$6 million the most ever paid for a Brazilian player. "We didn't want to let him

go, but we had to swallow it. There was no way Cruzeiro could pay what he will get," said the club's financial director, Mauricio Durate de Also gone is Carlos Alber-

down in the tiebreaker, it was tough to come back."

Garrison-Jackson's match.

She won the first set and

broke Grossman to tie the

second set 5-5. In the 12th

game, Garisson-Jackson's

backhand was called out in an

overrule by the chair umpire

Grossman led 4-0 when

one of her shots landed out.

There was no call, so the

point was replayed with Gar-rison winning it. Grossman recoverd to go up 6-2 before

Garisson won three straight

points to close to 6-5.

Another overrule gave Grossman the set.

to set up the tiebreaker.

Controversial call affected

to Parreira, coach of the Brazilian national team. Parreira accepted an offer to coach Valencia of Spain's first division - and took with him all-star midfielder Mazinho of Palmeiras. But even without its top

names, the national tourna-

ment retains its attraction as a showcase for local favourites, veterans and upand-coming talent. This year, the first division swelled from 20 to 24 clubs

from around this continentsized country, from the southern Pampas to the

month of the Amazon River. The teams are divided into four groups of six. The top four teams in each group advance to the second phase, while the other clubs play an extra round that qualifies two

Once again, the top con-tenders for the title are from Sao Paulo, Brazil's biggest

Defending champion Palmeiras is a strong candidate to repeat, despite the loss of Mazinho and midfielder Edilson, who transferred to Portugal's Benfica.

Backed by Italian dairy giant Parmalat, Palmeiras has bought all-star attacker Rivaldo from Corinthians and is close to signing national team goalkeeper Claudio Taffarel, who left Italy's Reggiana after last season.

They join a stellar lineup that includes Zinho, Roberto Carlos, Cesar Sampaio and

Another favourite is Sao Paulo, the two-time defending South American and world club champion, while the team lost versatile defendere-midfielder Leonardo, it has brought in new faces to join all-stars Zetti, Cafu, Palhinha and Muller.

ane newcomers are midfielders Alemao, of Italy's Napoli and Atalanta, and Jose Luis Sierra, of Chile's Union Espanola. But the darling of the crowd is the diminutive Juninho, who has been promised a try out on the national team by coach

Mario Zagalo. Corinthians also promises a strong campaign. Viola and Marcelinho lead the formidable front line, while the defence has been bolstered by the addition of newly acquired all-star Branco and Paulo Roberto.

Rio's traditional clubs are deep in debt and considered long-shots to reach the finals. Vasco Da Gama probable

has the best chance. The team hired Sebastiao Lazaroni, coach of Brazil's 1990 World Cup team, and brought in former all-star forward Joso Paulo of Italy's Bari. Ricario Rocha anchors a solid defence, and in the midfield the maestro is Yan, the revelation of last year's tournament.

All eyes on Middlesbrough's new manager Bryan Robson

LONDON (R) — Bryan Robson is putting a distinguished playing career for Manchester United and England behind him to tackle one of the biggest challenges of his life — the precarious existence of a football manager.

Robson, who led United and England with passion and bravery, has returned to his native north-east to attempt to revive Middlesbrough's fortunes and lift them into the premier league and back among the country's

His arrival at Middles-

brough has sparked an enthusiasm to match the welcome that greeted another former England star, Kevin Keegan, at Newcastle two years ago. Robson's transition from a great player to successful manager will be judged on his

ability to emulate Keegan. He has been given two years to succeed, but the odds are heavily stacked against him achieving promotion in his first season.

With only one side gaining automatic promotion from

the first division this season and another via the playoffs as the premier league prunes its numbers, the battle to escape will be fiercer than

Robson, who at 37 has gone from veteran to novice overnight, must pit his mascent skills against vastly more experienced coaches, including former England manager Graham Taylor who ended Robson's international career after winning 90 caps includ-

ing 65 as captain. Taylor, who is charged with taking Wolverhampton Winderen back to the top and has been given pleary of money to achieve it, and the likes of Dave Bassett and Joe Royle at relegated Sheffield United and Cldham, and Roy McFarland at big-spending Derby are Robson's main

Robson, who intends to play this season, says he has learned a great deal from the managers he played under a list that reads like a who's who of British football, Don

Howe, Ron Atkinson, Dave

Sexton, Alex Ferguson, Ron Greenwood, Bobby Robson, and Taylor.

"i went to take the good points I learned from all of them — and try to keep myself from following the bao points, the things that upset me at the time," he

"I've got a long-term job here. My aim is simple, to establish this club as a premiership side, not just build a side which can get promotion, but one that will stay

"I don't want to set expostations too high, but we finished ninth last year and there has to be an improvement. We are determined to have a real go at promotion and I will be disappointed if we don't at least make the

play-offs." The ambitious Teesside club, whose gates slumped dramatically at the end of last season, were expecting a full house for their opening game at Ayresome Park against Burnley.

ANNOUNCEMENT

U.S. foreign service written entrance examination for U.S. citizens only will be held Saturday, November 19, 1994

Deadline for application to be received in the U.S. is October 7, 1994 Applications and further

information available Personnel Section **U.S.** Embassy Abdoun



REMINDER

To: All ABS Parents

This is to remind all ABS students and parents that school and PE Uniforms and books are being sold in the ABS Sports Complex until August 25, 1994.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Job priorities will go to ex-prisoners

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Priority for jobs in the new autonomous areas will go to released prisoners and people injured in the Palestinian uprising, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) negotiator Nabil Shaath said Saturday. "There will be a priority in every ministry in its hiring to take first released prisoners, children of martyrs and people injured during the intifada," Dr. Shaath said. Dr. Sheath. who is also minister of international planning, said they would have priority in working on a project to clean up Gaza due to start at the end of the month, and expected to employ 12,000 people. The \$50 million project is funded by Japan and will be implemented by the U.N. Development Programme over a six to nine-month period. Dr. Shaath also told reporters after a "cabinet" meeting with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat that efforts were being made to push for the release of Palestinians still held in Israeli

Romanian dies from Istanbul blast

ISTANBUL (R) — A Romanian man, wounded in a bomb blast at a crowded bus terminal in Istanbul, has died of his wounds, a Romanian counsiar official said on Saturday. The man, 20-year-old Ismail Sunai, died around midnight Friday during an operation, the official said. The explosion earlier that day wounded eight more people, including a Swede, a Czech and two other Romanians. The bomb went off close to a food buffet in the terminal, frequented by foreign tourists at this time of year. The official said the two Romanians were in serious conditions and were being treated at the Istanbul medical faculty's hospital. The condition of the Czech was not immediately known, but the Swede, 27-year-old Inger Christina Fredriksson, was in good condition, the Swedish consulate said. One Turk was also still in hospital.

Israel closes Palestinian weekly

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) - Israeli authorities have ordered an Arabic-languague political weekly to close, saying it was linked to the Hamas organisation. Newspaper owner Abdul Hadi Bitar said that an Israeli interior ministry official had written to the paper saying the closure "stems from the fact that I am fully convicted that there is a strong relationship between Hamas organisation and the newspaper." Mr. Bitar told Reuter on Saturday that his Jerusalem-based newspaper Al Bayan has no association with Hamas. "It is completely false that Hamas has anything to do with the newspaper. If it was linked to Hamas, we would have been charged with security viola-

Turkey arrests preacher expelled from France

ISTANBUL (R) — Security forces arrested a Turkish preacher when he arrived in Istanbul after being deported from France, Anatolian news agency said on Saturday. The imam, Abdul Rahman Ciftcioglu, was accused of calling for violence against Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller. Security officials declined to comment. Mr. Ciftcioglu, who used the name Kasim Unal, was ordered expelled by the French interior ministry, which put him on a flight to Turkey on Friday night. French officials said the man was in charge of a mosque in Sochaux in eastern France and had publicy called for violence against Ms. Ciller.

Swiss embassy helped spy — Kayhan

TEHRAN (AFP) - The Iranian newspaper Kayhan on Saturday charged that the Swiss embassy here acted as a go-between between the United States and an Iranian Foreign Ministry official accused of being a spy. The newspaper's international edition said Hussein Vaqar, a top translator with the ministry, had been "sending information to the Americans through the Swiss diplomat." It did not identify the diplomat. The Swiss embassy in Iran has looked after U.S. interests since Tehran and Washington broke off ties in 1981. "Vaqar was first lured into espionage activities after the (Swiss) embassy offered him a woman," Kayhan said, adding he was "compelled to continue espionage links with the embassy." No comment on the allegations could be obtained from the Swiss embassy in Tehran. Iran's Foreign Ministry on Tuesday confirmed Mr. Vaqar's arrest on suspicion of spying for the United States. In his 13 years at the Foreign Ministry, Mr. Vaqar had acted as translator during many negotiations between Iranian leaders and visiting foreign officials.

Hundreds hospitalised in UAE heatwave

ABU DHABI (AFP) - Hundreds of people, mostly Asians, have been hospitalised for sunstroke in the past week as the United Arab Emirates (UAE) swelters in a heatwave, doctors said on Saturday. Temperatures of more than 46 Celsius (114.8 Fahrenheit) have been recorded here in the past few days and have taken their toll especially on labourers. Ambulances have rushed scores of people daily from construction sites and other installations in and around Abu Dhabi to local hospitals and more are expected to be admitted to the emergency unit, doctors said. "The accident unit has been flooded with patients suffering from high temperatures because of the heat. We have just received around 15 of them and more could be admitted." one doctor said. "Most of them are construction workers from India and Pakistan. We have treated hundreds of them in the past five days and there were no casualties." Weathermen have forecast an extremely hot August in the Gulf desert and people have been advised to avoid long exposures to the sun.

MPs accuse Turkey of staging show trial

ISTANBUL (R) — Kurdish members of parliament (MPs) on trial for treason over alleged links to Kurdish separatists said on Saturday the Turkish government was staging a show trial using faked evidence. "With faked evidence produced out of its imagination ... (the government) does not hesitate to trample under its feet all our rights, including our right to be tried justly," the imprisoned deputies said in a statement faxed to Reuters. The trial against six of the deputies, five from the now-banned, pro-Kurdish Democracy Party (DEP) and one independent, started earlier this month. They face the death penalty if convicted. The MPs were arrested after parliament lifted their immunity in March. When the party was closed down by the court in June, two more MPs were arrested and the remaining six fled to Europe.

15 dead as fires rage in Kabul after rocket attack

KABUL (AFP) - Fires raged in the supply depot of the Kabul Ministry of Public Health and a downtown shopping area Saturday, a day after a rocket attack which left at least 15 dead and 181 wounded, according to hospital figures. Hospital staff at the northwestern Khair Khana clinic reported 40 civilians seriously injured, of whom eight died, after Friday's rocket attack. Two main downtown hospitals reported an additional 156 patients, of whom seven died. "We could save nothing. Absolutely everything has been burned to ashes here," said Abdul Rasool Ilyasi, the deputy director of the warehouse. During Friday afternoon's bombardment of Kabul by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami faction, two rockets hit the warehouse, located in the Khair Khana district. A neighbouring U.N. warehouse escaped damage. Fireman battled Saturday with renaway fires in downtown Kabul, where so far more than 50 shops have been razed. The fires started Friday night after a two-storey shopping block took several direct rocket hits, locals reported.

Crown **Prince** stresses importance of managing sports

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Saturday attended part of the celebrations of Al Ahli Sports Club on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the club's establishment.

The Crown Prince said in an address to the audience attending the celebrations that management of sports is hard and different from the pleasures of practising

"We should pay atten-tion to raising the youngs-ters in a way that enables them to develop their country," he said. He praised the founders

of the club and called upon today's generation to con-



tinue giving and building. He presented Al Ahli shields to the founders of

Mr. Mohammad Mamsar, chairman of the Ahli board of directors, pre-sented a token gift to the

The Crown Prince was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad and State Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Baqi Gam-

2 suspects indicted in France; Bangladeshi soldier killed on Iraq-Kuwait border FIS supporters plan protests KUWAIT (Agencies) — A

ROUEN, France (Agencies)
— Two suspected Islamic militants were charged at Rouen, northern France, with having links to a terrorist group and illegal posses-sion of arms, informed sources said Saturday.

The two suspected mem-bers of the Algerian Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) were arrested Thursday and charged Friday, a week after the start of a crackdown by the French authorities against suspected fundamentalists living in France.

Tassadit Rebani, who is French, and Mourad Bellazoug, who is Algerian, were both students at Mont-saint-Aignan, in the Rouen sub-

Police said they had links with Abdul Raman Chenine, a 24-year-old Algerian arrested on Aug. 5 when he went to pick up an illegal arms consignment hidden at a supermarket in the western suburb of La Defense.

Police said they had found FIS literature and "other compromising objects" in the students' rooms when they were searched.

Two other students, including Mr. Bellazoug's sister, were taken in for questioning last week and released

The crackdown against the suspected fundamentalists and their supporters was announced last week by Interior Minister Charles Pasqua after fundamentalists murdered five French gen-darms and consular staff in Algeria and the Armed Islamic Group threatened to attack French interests unless Paris withdrew all its staff and ended support for Algeria's military-backed govern-

Some 20,000 people have been stopped by police in Faris and around France in the past week in the security clampdown which has targetted mainly immigrantpopulated areas.
Police have also stopped

8.000 cars and held between 275 and 300 people of questioning. More than 20 suspected

Islamic militants are currently being held in a northern army barracks. Islamic militants have been

fighting an increasingly bloody war against the military-backed government in Algiers since the army cancelled the second round of elections the now banned FIS was poised to win. Most French voters back

the crackdown and feel France should quit Algeria rather than risk fresh attacks from guerrillas, a survey said on Saturday.

The opinion poll was pub-

lished in the newspaper Le Parisien.

The CSA survey said 57 per cent of French voters believed street controls and arrests of suspected fundamentalists were an efficient deterrent. It said 34 per cent of sceptics said the action was intended to impress the

A similar majority of 54 per cent believed France should pull out of Aigeria and let it sort out its crisis on its own, to 34 per cent who believed France should stay in its former colony. Foreign Minister Alain Juppe has said France wants to maintain its presence in Algeria.

In London, FIS supporters are planning more protests next week outside the French embassy there, a spokesman said Saturday, amid rising

and Paris over the demonstrations.

Some 30 to 40 people de-monstrated outside the embassy Friday, protesting at the French crackdown.

Abdullah Messai, spokes-man for the Algerian community in Britain, considered an outpost of the FIS, told AFP Saturday that more demonstrations would be held every afternoon next week. We want to show France

that it is on the wrong road and to show our solidarity with the supporters of the FIS who are being harassed in France," he said.

FIS is not a banned organisation in Britain — a fact which has irritated Mr. Pasqua into accusing Britain of not doing enough to combat fundamentalism.

His remark drew immediate fire from the Foreign Office which said London's anti-terrorism policies were "strong and consistent," while the Home Office said there was no reason to stop the demonstrations as long they remained lawful.

Mr. Messai, who described himself as a "supporter of FIS but not exactly a mem-ber," added: "We want to alert the public in France and Britain to France's efforts which allow a junta which kills and tortures to remain in

"France has committed an aggressive act. We are issuing a warning: "Stop or you will have to pay."
Saying that he was opposed

"in principle" to violence, he refused to condemn the assassinations of the five Frenchmen in Algiers, which he called "acts of legitimate

(Continued on page 7)

Pro-unity YSP members move to elect new leaders

SANAA (R) — Supporters of the country's unity in the Yemeni Socialist Party are expected to elect a new leadership replacing those whose secessionist bid was crushed in two months of war, an official said on Saturday.

"Secessionist elements have no place within the party or a role in the political life," said Yahya Mansour Abu Isba, a YSP parliamentary member and spokesman for the party's Sanaa-based pro-unity provisional lead-

Mr. Abu Isba told Reuters efforts were underway to set a date for a YSP central committee meeting to elect a new politburo.

He said YSP leader Ali Salem Al Beidh, who set up a separate southern state during the war, his Prime Minister Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas and other secessionist leaders would be replaced.

Forces of President Ali Abdullah Saleh defeated secession on July 7 and forced Mr. Beidh and his too party officials to flee.

Mr. Beidh tops a list of 16 YSP members described by Sanaa as traitors who should be returned to Yemen for trial.

"Beidh's role has ended by all standards. He is the one who read the secession dec-laration. Attas was his prime

minister. There are also those who are stil talking of a sepa-rate state," Mr. Abu Isba

"All of them have no place any more within the party ranks or a role in the political life," Mr. Abu Isba said.

The provisional leadership in Sanaa includes six members of the 24-member YSP politburo, the central committee and Yemen's parliament. Political sources say there are signs that they could muster enough support to hold a central committee meeting.

It is one of two YSP splinter groups that emerged within Yemen after the war, both in favour of keeping Yemen

The second, made up of lower-ranking officials, responded to a call made by Mr. Saleh last week to depose the YSP's secessionist leaders and said it was taking over the leadership of the party - a move dismissed by the first group.

The first group is trying to prevent the second group from electing a leadership loyal to Mr. Saleb, political sources said.

"Pro-unity YSP leaders would still like to maintain their independence and elect their own credible leadership away from Saleh's influence," one said.

politburo after a meeting in Damascus on Wednesday, chaired by its deputy leader Salem Saleh Mohammad, condemned both the war and the secession, called for a dialogue with the Sanaa government and urged YSP members and supporters who fied after the civil war defeat to return home.

A statement by the YSP

Official and party sources in Sanaa said the statement, which failed to condemn secessionist leaders, was disappointing. Fadl Mohsen Abdullah, a

YSP politburo member and minister of fisheries in the Sanaa government, attended the Damascus meeting and conveyed some promises from Mr. Saleh's govern-He was quoted on Satur-

day by the UAE newspaper Al Ittihad as saying some YSP officials might return with him to Sanaa while others might follow next week. He did not give any

Mr. Attas told the Londonbased Al Hayat newspaper on Saturday that the YSP leadership would take measures against any members who joined a new government that Mr. Saleh plans to form and warned of the dan-

The three men were the

Bangladeshi army officer with a U.N. peacekeeping force was killed and two soldiers wounded in an ambush in the fragi side of the de-militarised zone (DMZ) along the desert border, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported Saturday.

The agency quoted sources with the U.N. Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UN-IKOM) as saying the shooting occurred at 10:30 p.m. Friday (1930 GMT) near the southern Iraqi town of Saf-wan inside the DMZ, which runs 10 kilometres into Iraq.

The officials Iraqi News Agency (INA) monitored in Cyprus, later admitted that "an armed band of thieves and smugglers molested a U.N. detachment in Safwan" Friday night.
In a despatch from the

southern city of Basra, INA quoted "well-informed sources" there as saying the smugglers attacked the Bangladeshis "because the detachment had earlier confiscated amounts of alcoholic beverages which the men wanted to smuggle into Kuwait." Liquor is banned in the emi-

The Iraqi sources did not give the nationalities of the 'smugglers," but said there were no Iraqi troops in the area because it lies inside the

DMZ. The U.N. officials did not name the Bangladeshi casualties and gave no details of the shooting. But they said the two wounded troopers were in stable condition in a

Kuwait hospital.

first casualties in the 775-strong Bangladeshi battalion, armed with light weapons and armoured vehicles, since it deployed along the 210-kilometre-long border in

February.
A 300-man U.N. observer force monitoring the DMZ, established after the 1991 Gulf war, is not armed.

The killing of the Bangladeshi officer was the first violent incident reported along the border for many months and only the third armed incident in the zone since November. In one, unidentified men robbed a UN-**IKOM** dormitory.

The border had been very quiet in recent months, although UNIKOM officers report regular attempted in-cursions by hungry Iraqis seeking food or work.

A military source said he understood that after the ambush there had been an exchange of fire between the UNIKOM patrol, which was in a four-wheel drive vehicle, and the assailants.

The spokesman said it would take several days to complete the investigation into the incident. The Bangladeshi troops ar-

rived in December 1993 and January 1994 and are equipped with anti-tank recoilless rifles, mortars, armoured personnel carriers, automatic rifles and machineguns. The decision to deploy the

Bangladeshis was taken in February 1993 after hundreds of Iraqis had crossed the

(Continued on page 7)

Kim's son ran N. Korea for 20 years — aide

government policy for 20 years before the death of his father President Kim Il-Sung, a senior North Korean official said on Saturday. In a rare Western press

interview, Deputy Foreign Minister Kang-Sok-Ju also said there had been no change in North Korea's foreign policy since the "great leader" died last month.

His remarks that Kim Jong-II was firmly in charge appeared designed to counter Western speculation of a power struggle or significant policy change in the secretive communist state.

Mr. Kang, who this week negotiated an outline accord with the United States on Pyongyang's disputed nuclear programme, said the north remained committed to the eventual reunification of the Korean Peninsula. But he heavily criticised

South Korea for both failing to express condolences for Kim's death and for putting its army on alert within 30 minutes of Pyongyang announcing the news. They seemed to want to

burn down the house while the people were still mourning," he declared in an interview with Reuters and the Washington Post. Mr. Kang earlier on Saturday concluded an agreement

with the United States spelling out the next steps to resolve a stand-off over Pyongyang's suspected nuclear weapons programme. gers of a split in party ranks. After a week of negotia-

GENEVA (R) — North tions, the two sides agreed Korea's new leader Kim that North Korea would Jong-Il oversaw all aspects of freeze its graphite nuclear power programme if it is given in return a light-water reactor system less capable of producing weapons-grade plutonium (see page 4).

The negotiations in Gene-

va were seen in the West as a possible pointer on North Korea's future foreign policy under Kim Jong II. Mr. Kang said the agree-ment showed North Korea's

"sincerity in resolving the nuclear issue." He said North Korea had not broken new ground but had followed the ideas and policies laid out by Kim Il-Sung in the weeks before his death.

"Our policy has remained consistent," said Mr. Kang, who was wearing a discreet Kim Il-Sung pin-badge in the lapel of his charcoal-grey The main details of the

accord were settled in negotiations on Thursday, but a meeting next day between Mr. Kang and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci was delayed repeatedly, apparently because Mr. Kang could not get clearance from Pyongyang for the

Asked about North Korea's chain of command and how he consulted with Pyongyang, Mr. Kang said all policy was discussed democratically by officials con-cerned before being sent to a "higher destination" for

approval.
"Our dear leader comrade Kim Jong-Il has been ovetseeing the overall aftairs of our country," Mr. Kang said. said.

After 6 years. mother, child reunite

NEW YORK (AP) — A flight from Minsk brought a tearful mother to the bedside

of her critically injured 7. year-old daughter on Friday Irina Skorobogotova, who hadn't seen her daughter in six years, "told Lydia that she has a mother and her mother is here," said Dr. Gregg Rockower, chief pediatric resident at Bellevue Hospital. But young Lydia Kitaev, injured as she tried to stop her father's suicidal plunge from a homeless shelter, was unable to respond, according to Dr. Rockower. He said heavy sedation and a tube from a ventilator in her throat kept Lydia from saying anything. It was the second reunion involving Lydia in two days. Ms. Skorobogotova arrived at Kennedy Airport Friday, a day after Lydia's paternal grand-mother. Both women want custody. Ms. Skorobogotova, an actress, has obtained a custody order for her daughter in their homeland of Belarus. She said through an interpreter in the Bellevue lobby that she was in New York to get custody. "There is no question. That is why I'm here." The Child's father, Mikhail Kitaev, an architect, plunged to his death from the window of a homeless shelter on Aug. 4, with his daughter clutching his shirt in an attempt to save him. Lydia suffered severe internal injuries and nearly died. The girl's parents divorced when she was a year old. Lydia and her father lived with the grandmother before the two came to the United States last month. Politicians pulled strings to get the girl's relatives to this country quickly. Their travel expenses were being paid by donors, moved by the tragic tale. Bellevue Hospital has been inundated with offers of money, toys, prayers and adoptions — more than 400 calls in all about the blonde, blue-eyed girl. Asked about the girl's prognosis, Dr. Rockower said: "I think she'll probably do well in the end but I don't know when

Court blocks woman's entrance to ali male school

CHARLESTON, South

that will be.'

Carolina (AFP) — A federal appeals court blocked a woman's admittance to an all: male state school, just days before she was to have had her long blonde hair cut off as required by the military school. A lower court had ruled that Shannon Faulkner must be allowed to enter The Citadel cadet corps next week to become the first woman at the school in its 151-year history. But two of the three judges in a panel at the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted a stay on her admission and pledged to hear the case in December. Ms. Faulkner, who was admitted after applying by eliminating all references to her gender, has been attend-ing day classes at the school since January and will attend day classes again this coming semester, said Bob Black, one of her lawyers. Sandy Faulkner, Shannon's mother, said the 19-year-old was taking the decision in stride. "She's fine. She's having lunch with a friend right now on the patio," Mrs. Faulkner said of her daughter. The Citadel and Virginia Military Institute are the only state-funded military schools in the United States who still restrict admission to men.

U.S. government recalis 'dangerousiy

flammable' skirts WASHINGTON (AP) -Some popular rayon and rayon-cotton chiffon skirts imported from India are dangerously flammable and purchasers should return them to stores for refunds, the government's Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) said. "These skirts burn faster than newspaper."
the commission warned in what was believed the biggest. clothing recall ever announced in the United States. About 250,000 of the skirts have been sold the last two to three years for between \$6 and \$80 in some of America's best-known stores. and they are participating in the recall, the commission srael d says ch By a Jordan Staff Repor with agency dis ABMAN — Prome epol 2971 W 74711 Deputy Printe and Aziz on Sund

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